Palace sees laundering law OK by Sept. 30

STORY ON PAGE A2

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
website: www.inq7.net

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2001 ★★ 44 PAGES 3 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 289 ₱15

'ASAN NA LAHAT NG MGA KAIBIGAN KO?

Erap still can't believe he's in 'jail'

DETAINED former President Joseph Estrada is "very depressed" ahead of his corruption trial next week and is still stunned at what has happened to him,

ERAP/ A4

WHAT'S INSIDE

- **'Labuyo' hovers over N. Luzon** NEWS / A2
- **Peñalosa fails to win title** SPORTS / A16
- **Gov't may revive case vs JdV** NEWS / A3
- **Jordan playing for Wizard-Post** SPORTS / A17

300,000 Afghans massing

Pro-Taliban suicide force ordered to stop US troops in Pakistan

AFGHANISTAN'S Taliban rulers have mobilized 300,000 Afghans "experienced in jihad" or holy war, deploying them in the capital of Kabul, along the nation's borders and "other important sites," the Taliban defense minister said yesterday.

"We have instructed the whole *mujahed* (holy warrior) nation to prepare themselves for jihad and wage holy war at any time they think is necessary," the defense chief, Mullah Obaidullah, said in a statement.

The Taliban, however, are believed to have only 45,000 troops at most, and around a fourth of those are believed to be foreigners, including Arabs recruited by Osama bin Laden's terrorist network. The country has around 25 million people.

Bin Laden has urged neighboring Pakistan to "repel the US crusader forces," a Qatar TV station reported last night.

"We incite our Muslim brethren in Pakistan to prevent the American crusader forces from invading Pakistan and Afghanistan with all means at their disposal," Bin Laden was reported to have said in a statement station received by fax.

In Pakistan, Mullah Ghafoor Haideri, a leader of a hardline Pakistani Islamic party, threatened to direct suicide forces against US servicemen if any are deployed in his country.

"We are directing our suicide force to guard those airways and areas that American forces wish to use against Afghanistan," he said at a news conference in Quetta.

"If American airplanes land at our air base, suicide fighters will attack them," said Haideri, the national general secretary of the right-wing Jamiat-e-Ulema Islami party.

The Afghan mobilization and the right-wing threat came after a high

300,000 AFGHANS/ A14

US to cut Bin Laden money supply

WASHINGTON—As part of a sustained effort to defeat terrorism, President George W. Bush is set to choke off the flow of money to Osama bin Laden with an executive order freezing his group's assets in the United States as the White House prepares for military action.

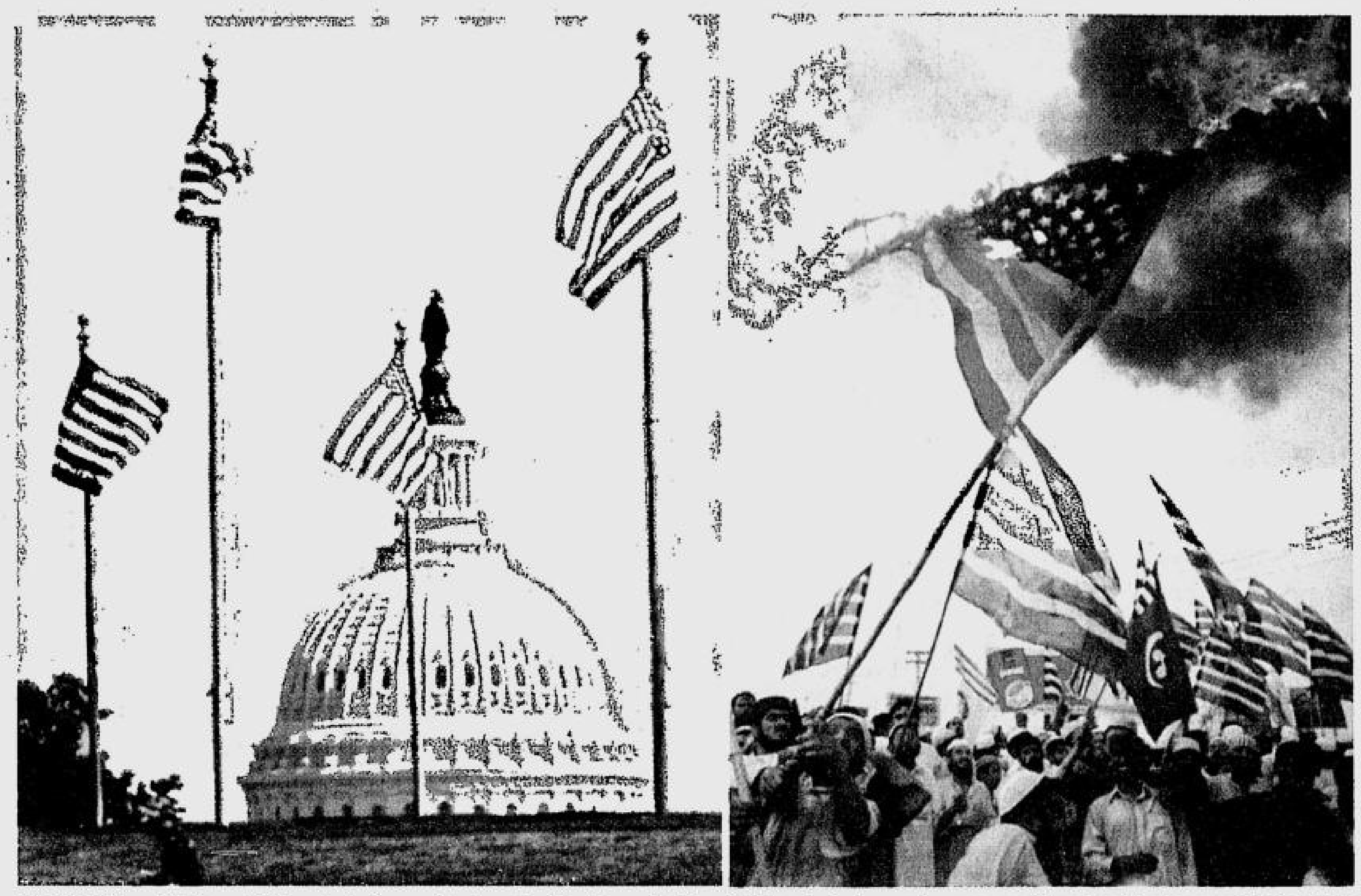
This early, the United States may have suffered a setback after Saudi Arabia expressed reservations at allowing US use of an air base south of Riyadh in striking at fellow Arab states long accused of terrorism.

National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice said Sunday, "the president will sign an executive order about financial networks, really squeezing the life's blood out of (Bin Laden's) organization."

Rice said the executive order would identify terrorist groups and their operatives around the world.

Bin Laden, accused of running the al-Qaida network that targets

US/ A15



THE STARS and Stripes at full mast starting on Sunday signifies the end of the official period of mourning even as it's set on fire by a pro-Taliban Islam religious group during its rally in Lahore, Pakistan, to protest the government's support for the United States. AP/REUTERS

Just who is terrorist? US foes, heroes to others

WASHINGTON—As they gear up for a global war on terrorism, America and its allies may have trouble agreeing—beyond Osama bin Laden—just who is a terrorist.

Some Arab nations warn they will not help the United States if the target is Hamas, Islamic Jihad or Hezbollah. These groups resist Israel in its struggle with Palestinian groups.

All three are Islamic extremist groups listed by the United States as terrorists and with suspected ties to Bin Laden's al-Qaida network.

Yet some Arab nations view them as legitimate fighters against Israel.

"Our war on terror begins with al-Qaida, but it does not end there," US President George W. Bush pledged to the nation in a speech before Congress on Thursday night. "It will not end until every terrorist group of global reach has been found, stopped and defeated."

That's when some US allies may start getting cold feet.

"You have to pick carefully how wide your net is thrown," said Michael O'Hanlon, a defense expert at the Brookings Institution in Washington.

"Many countries are not going to share intelligence if they think we're coming after people on their ground, or people they don't want us to come after," O'Hanlon added.

Top US officials answer vaguely when asked how the United States might work with two nations—Syria and Iran—it has reached out to. Both are currently on a list of nations that America says sponsor terrorism.

JUST/ A15

Lacson: I'm not attending Senate hearing

BY ARMAND N. NOCUM
AND CATHY C. YAMSUAN

THOUGH presumably armed with a "folder-full" of evidence in his favor, Sen. Panfilo "Ping" Lacson plans to be a no-show at tomorrow's resumption of Senate hearings on military intelligence chief Col. Victor Corpus' allegations against him.

Saying Corpus has so far failed to present substantial proof of charges that Lacson amassed hidden wealth through criminal activities, the senator said: "I will just be wasting my time listening to lies."

He told Senate reporters at a news conference that tomorrow he "will just spend time doing other things."

Lacson arrived last week from a 10-day trip in the United States, one of three countries where he allegedly maintained bank accounts containing a total of $211 million, as well as owned several pieces of property.

The former Philippine National Police chief said he brought back documents indicating that four houses or lots that he allegedly owns in San Francisco and Los Angeles are not his.

One piece of property in San Francisco, he said, belongs to the Friedman Trust, which acquired it in 1924.

Calling the Corpus camp's charges against him "whimsical," Lacson said, "They just saw a building that was rumored to be mine

LACSON/ A4

SOLDIERS of the Northern Alliance, the only opposition fighting the Taliban on the ground in Afghanistan, are on combat-ready footing to take over the country with the help of the United States. REUTERS

America turns to prayer

NEW YORK—Hoping that religion would offer a roadmap out of horror, Americans turned on Sunday to their churches, synagogues, mosques, temples—and even one of the city's baseball fields.

The nationally televised, interfaith "A Prayer for America" service at New York's Yankee Stadium was held especially for the families of victims of the Sept. 11 terror attacks and the rescue workers who have become heroes to a weary city and nation.

The master of ceremonies was television's Oprah Winfrey, who added a New Age touch when she said that "when you lose a loved one, you gain an angel whose name you know."

On Sept. 11, she said, "6,000 angels were added to the spiritual roster."

The event—part sacred and part secular, both patriotic rally and prayer meeting—was led by a num-

AMERICA/ A14

Clark, Subic, Mactan open to US warplanes

BY CARLITO PABLO,
CHRISTINE AVENDAÑO
AND TONETTE OREJAS

NOT only Clark and Subic but also the Benito Ebuen Air Base in Cebu will be open to the US-led coalition waging a war on global terrorism, Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes said yesterday.

Reyes reiterated that as a charter member of the United Nations, the Philippines stood "foursquare" behind the UN resolution condemning international terrorism and enjoining member-states to help fight the menace.

"President Macapagal-Arroyo said we will cooperate (with the coalition)," he said. "We will support (it) within the limits of our resources, the limits of the needs of the international community, and the laws of the republic."

Senate President Franklin Drilon and Senators Rodolfo Biazon, Ramon Magsaysay Jr., Aquilino Pimentel Jr., John Osmeña and Ralph Recto said the refueling stops made here by US military aircraft bound for the Middle East could be allowed as long as these did not violate Philippine laws.

Osmeña went as far as to say that he would not mind if the Philippines and the United States forged a new treaty to establish US military bases in the country.

But Bayan Muna Rep. Satur

CLARK/ A4

Second FRONT PAGE

AABOT DAW SA DEADLINE!

Palace sees laundering law OK by Sept. 30

MALACAÑANG yesterday expressed confidence that Congress would come up with a crucial anti-money laundering measure this week in time to meet the Sept. 30 deadline imposed by an international task force and forestall sanctions against the country.

President Macapagal-Arroyo has said she would immediately sign the measure, as soon as it is approved by Congress, into law, her spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said yesterday.

The President also stands ready to certify the bill as urgent so the two chambers can dispense with the three-day printing requirement for the new law.

Senate President Franklin Drilon said passage of the law was crucial, since any sanctions would further weaken the economy, which is already reeling from a prolonged hostage crisis in the south and other problems on the political front.

The Paris-based Financial Action Task Force, backed by most industrialized nations, has set a Sept. 30 deadline for the Philippines to take legislative action to combat money laundering or face sanctions from its members.

Officials said among the sanctions the FATF could impose were the issuing of warnings to potential investors in the Philippines and a tightening of banking procedures that could stifle trade.

"We hope to finish the debate and have the measure signed by Sept. 30," said Drilon.

He said the Senate committee report on the measure would undergo "major changes" to take into account concerns that it could lead to capital flight of foreign currency deposit unit accounts.

"We will try to meet the deadline. We will exert our best effort," he said.

Key legislation

Hopes for enacting the key legislation were raised after 17 senators vowed to sign the committee report yesterday, Tiglao said.

He said this was more than the required majority vote of 11 senators.

"Sept. 30 is a Sunday so leaders of Congress have informed us that they are willing even to stop the clock and work until Saturday," Tiglao said.

He said members of the 12th Congress were working not under duress but under a "high degree of patriotism."

Drilon said the senators acceded to his request not to avail of the "privilege hour for questions for personal privilege for the next few days until we can address this anti-money laundering legislation."

But what Drilon feared did happen at the House, which yesterday failed to begin deliberations on the measure as congressmen chose to spend the first day of the session on debates over the Speaker's proposal to suspend congressional investigations for six months.

The House banking committee last week managed to consolidate a number of versions of the money-laundering bill. The new document was then due to be deliberated on and consolidated with the Senate's version of the legislation, before being submitted to the President for signing.

The minority bloc in the House has vowed to thoroughly scrutinize the House version of the bill despite the looming deadline, warning of such dire consequences as scaring away legitimate investors and penalizing "honest" overseas Filipino workers.

But as late as 6:30 last night, none of these concerns had been addressed as other issues like the "Gang of Five" scandal and De Venecia's supposed "gag order" on House inquiries ate up much of the congressmen's time.

Much the same misgivings were voiced by the opposition in the Senate, their "principal worry," according to Sen. Edgardo Angara, being the proposed bill's allowing authorities to have easy access to bank accounts.

Angara said this was "frightening for our bank depositors, mostly Chinese Filipino."

In his sponsorship speech, Sen. Ramon Magsaysay urged the immediate passage of the measure that would prevent the country from becoming a haven of dirty money.

Tiglao said the key legislation would be "enough to put teeth into an anti-money laundering campaign."

The President has said that one of her initial reactions to the terrorist attacks on the United States on Sept. 11 was the need to fight money laundering.

Biggest launderers

The National Security Council has recognized that terrorists are among the biggest money launderers in the world, National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said.

Bank of the Philippines chief economist Johnny Ravalo said he was optimistic that the law would be passed within the deadline.

"I think with a week to go it is tight, but things have happened in one week in this country," Ravalo said.

"Some legislators are worried about simply passing the bill for the sake of compliance. Creating the law is the easier step, the major issue is how to implement the law in terms of (effective enforcement)." ***Reports from Juliet Labog-Javellana, Christine Avendaño, Volt Contreras and AFP***

'Labuyo' hovers over N. Luzon

BY CYNTHIA D. BALANA

TYPHOON "Labuyo" has intensified but remained almost stationary in Calayan Islands, the weather bureau said yesterday.

As of 4 p.m., the eye of the typhoon was spotted at 110 km south southwest of Basco, Batanes, or at 130 km north northwest of Aparri, Cagayan.

It has maximum sustained winds of 130 km per hour near the center and gustiness of up to 160 kph.

Labuyo was forecast to be at 150 km southwest of Basco or at 160 km north of Laoag City by afternoon today.

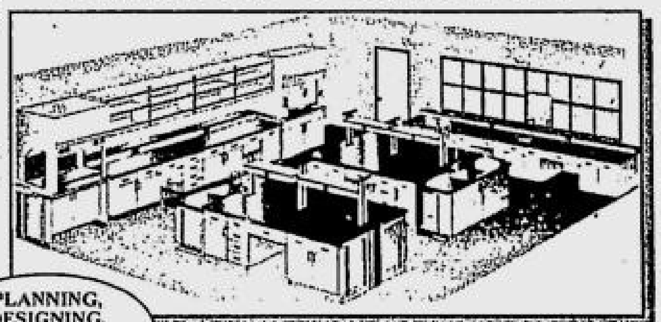
Storm Signal No. 3 is in effect over Batanes group, Calayan and Babuyan Islands.

Signal No. 2 was hoisted over the rest of Cagayan, Apayao and Ilocos Norte.

These areas will experience stormy weather today while coastal waters will be rough to very rough and dangerous to all types of seacraft.

Due to its slow movement, Labuyo will continue to induce more rains over Luzon and Western Visayas. Residents of Cagayan, Ilocos provinces, La Union, Pangasinan, Mt. Pinatubo area and other threatened areas have been advised to take precautionary measures against flash floods and landslides.

Keep The Good Memories More Vivid And Lasting!
ONLY P700
We'll transfer them from Beta, VHS, Video 8, & Vhs-C
For special occasions like weddings, baptismal, birthdays and corporate videos like product demos, company profile and audio-visual presentation.
Free Pick-Up And Delivery Within Metro Manila
IDEAL WORKS ☎ 892-9073 to 75 Fax: 867-4226


THE NAME OF QUALITY LABORATORY FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT
PLANNING, DESIGNING, FABRICATION & INSTALLATION
PRODUCT LINES:
• CHEMISTRY TABLES
• BIOLOGY TABLES
• PHYSICS TABLES
• FUMEHOODS
• LAMINAR FLOW
• SPEECH LABORATORY
• SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS
• LABORATORY SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT
• CHEMICALS
• COMPOUND MICROSCOPE & BINOCULAR MICROSCOPE
• MEMMERT LAB OVEN
• SUNTEX PH METER
• BIOLOGICAL MODEL
• A & D ELECTRONIC BALANCE
• MOISTURE METER
• REXMED AUTOMATIC W/ ELECTRONIC REGISTER MODEL 560
Innovative design, world-class quality products to answer your laboratory needs
You are welcome to visit our showroom & office:
For more information, please contact MARS LABURADA at 634-8701
MARS LAB Mars Laboratory Instruments Center
Unit 610, Prestige Tower, Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tels.: 631-8799 • 631-9399 • 632-9809 • 634-8707 • TeleFax: (632) 634-8701

Straight news ● In-depth analysis ● Provocative columns
We'll deliver them all right at your doorstep.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
"The Largest Selling Newspaper Nationwide"
For Metro Manila home delivery, please call us at
528-01-83 ● 528-01-86
or mail/fax reply coupon below to
Philippine Daily Inquirer
c/o Circulation Division
Ground Floor, Trinity Building, 636 T. M. Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila Fax No. 528-02-34
I'd like to subscribe to the Philippine Daily Inquirer.
Please have my copy delivered to:
Name ____
Address ____
____ Tel. No. ____
____ Signature
News that makes a difference

US cargo plane makes emergency landing in Cebu

CEBU CITY—A US Air Force cargo plane with nine crewmen aboard made an emergency landing here yesterday because of cargo hold pressure problems, an official said.

The C-17, from a US military base in Kadena, Japan, was flying over the southern Philippines to a US naval base in Diego Garcia island in the Indian Ocean when pilots detected a rise in the pressure in the cargo hold, the official said.

The pilots declared an emergency and considered landing in the southern port city of Zamboanga but proceeded to Cebu province. Firetrucks and ambulances trailed the plane as it safely touched down, said Manuel Tompar, chief of Cebu's airport tower.

After fixing the problem, the crew waited for clearance to resume its flight from Cebu.

Tompar provided no other details about the aircraft and its cargo.

US Embassy spokesperson Karen Kelley said the flight's mission was in support of US-led anti-terrorism campaign called "Infinite Justice" in response to the Sept. 11 attacks in New York and Washington.

RICOH COPIERS
OPEN MONDAY TO SUNDAY
Liquid Type P 12,000 only
Powder Type P 16,000 only
AVAILABLE LEASE TO OWN/RENTAL
KAI GEN. MDSE. Tel.: 716-6110 / 780-0302 / 780-0304
(INFRONT OF PUP ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURE BLDG.)
GC-1 BLDG 3 GSIS METROHOMES, PUREZA, STA. MESA, MANILA
AUTHORIZED DEALERS
Metro Manila: Caloocan 367 6872 • LUZON: Baguio (074) 4436914 or 3042946 • Tarlac (045) 8000409 • Sta Maria (044) 6415166 • Bocaue (044) 692-5377 • Lipa (043) 3122676 • Lucena (042) 7107966 • Daet (054) 7215029 • Naga (472) 0494 • Iriga (054) 6552024 • Legaspi (052) 8203345 • Masbate (056) 3332793 • VISAYAS: Cebu (032) 4123697 • Catbalogan (055) 2512206 • Calbayog (055) 2093322 • Tacloban (053) 325-3441 • Iloilo (033) 3297828 • MINDANAO: Pagadian (062) 214-4551 • Davao (082) 2226824 • Gen. Santos (083) 3020743 • Cagayan de Oro (088) 2313850 • Cotabato (064) 421-6239 • Iligan (063) 2215492

SERVICE WEEK
(October 1 to 6, 2001)
A one week event open to all clients with existing IBM units
WHAT WILL YOU GET?
- FREE check-up of your IBM units*
- As much as 50% OFF on repair charges
- Discounts on replacement parts
- Discount vouchers for your next service requirements
- Highly trained and certified engineers to service your IBM desktops, Thinkpads and servers
* Free check up for units that are brought to Technopaq Service Center.
CALL US NOW!!!
TECHNOPAQ SERVICE CENTER
Warranty Extension * Server Configuration * Clustering * Data Restoration
Maintenance Agreements * Migration
3/F 8101 Pearl Plaza, Pearl Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Technopaq INCORPORATED Phone: (632)637-6545 ; FAX: (632)637-6546 ;
email:service@technopaq.com
Look for Cely or Angel

Lacson denies bugging raps, wants case dropped

BY MICHAEL LIM UBAC

SEN. Panfilo Lacson has formally denied allegations that he used the defunct Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force to conduct wiretapping activities during the previous administration.

Lacson yesterday submitted a four-page counter-affidavit with the Ombudsman's Office, which is conducting formal investigation on the case.

In the affidavit, Lacson flatly denied allegations that the PAOCTF under his leadership purchased the GA900, Digetal Directional Finder and other surveillance accessories.

Lacson claimed that the equipment did not work and "therefore could not have tapped into any conversation happening at the time."

Last week, Ombudsman Aniano Desierto ordered a preliminary investigation into allegations cited in the criminal complaint filed on Aug. 31 by the Philippine National Police Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (PNP-CIDG) against Lacson and 10 others, mostly PAOCTF members.

Desierto ordered the investigation after PNP operatives seized bugging equipment in an entrapment operation in Pasig on Aug. 20. During the raid, policemen found a computer unit, which allegedly contained the mobile phone numbers of ranking government officials who were bugged.

In the complaint, Police Chief Supt. Nestorio Gualberto, PNP-CIDG chief, charged Lacson and his men with malversation, graft, false testimony and perjury, and violation of the 1965 Anti-Wiretapping Act.

The other respondents were Police Senior Superintendents Michael Ray Aquino and Magtanggol Gatdula, Lt. Coronels Dioscoro Reyes and Dennis Agaram, Police Supt. John Lopez, Police Chief Insp. Steve Ludan, PO2s Giovanni Belen, Freddie Ferrer and Wendel Arinas, and Technical Sergeant Arturo Tabang.

Gualberto claimed Lacson authorized the purchase of electronic bugging equipment in 1999 worth a total of $653,116.59 using a portion of the P500-million intelligence fund of the PAOCTF.

But Lacson denied any participation in the crimes imputed to him by Gualberto.

He said he never lied in his testimony before the Senate as regards the reported wiretapping activities in December 2000.

"In my testimony thereat, I never denied the intention of the PAOCTF to purchase the said equipment, which was offered as part of technical surveillance system by Amstrack Corp. I, however, clarified in my testimony that the PAOCTF was unable to purchase the system based on the findings of the technical support division... the equipment "did not adapt to local conditions," he said.

Thus, he said, he did not commit any perjury when he testified before the Senate, contrary to Gualberto's claim.

Lacson said he could not be charged with malversation since the equipment was not bought by the PAOCTF.

'Ping' the croc is PNP mascot

MEET "Ping" the crocodile, Camp Crame's newest mascot.

The three-foot long crocodile turned up at national police headquarters yesterday morning after the 8:30 flag ceremony was canceled due to rain.

Police and reporters had some fun speculating the reptile may have been looking for its relatives among mulcting cops.

Reporters were quick to find a name for the crocodile. "Leandro" after Philippine National Police chief Leandro Mendoza and "Rosebud" after secret agent Mary Ong were among the favorites, but "Ping" after Sen. Panfilo Lacson, former PNP chief, won out.

Even after it was later found that "Ping" was a female, the name stuck.

Headquarters Support Services chief Supt. Prospero Noble revealed that a creek runs under Edsa between Camps Crame and Aguinaldo. *Christine Herrera*

Abu Sayyaf leader falls; bomb plot foiled

POLICE and military officials announced yesterday the arrest of a ranking member of the Abu Sayyaf believed to head the Metro Manila cell of the terrorist group.

Brig. Gen. Arsenio Tecson, army deputy chief, identified the suspect as Mohammad Faisal Ijajil, also known as Espital Ijajil and Faisal Abbas, who was arrested on a warrant for murder at a house in Sampaloc, Manila, on Sept. 18.

Senior Supt. Jaime Karingal, deputy chief of the Philippine National Police Intelligence Group, said with Ijajil's arrest, the Abu Sayyaf's plan to sow terror through bombings in Metro Manila has been foiled.

Authorities said they found documents on Ijajil that laid out the plans.

"With his arrest, we have preempted their projected bombing operations in Metro Manila," Karingal said.

Thin and frail-looking, Ijajil, who has a P1-million bounty on his head, stared blankly as he was presented to media at Fort Bonifacio, Makati, the headquarters of the Philippine Army.

Military sources said Ijajil, who they believe also oversaw intelligence gathering for the Abu Sayyaf in Metro Manila, refused to crack after several days of interrogation.

Tecson said Ijajil would only admit to being a member of the Abu Sayyaf.

Ijajil was arrested for murder on the strength of a warrant issued by Judge Danilo Bucoy of the Basilan Regional Trial Court on June 7.

He was allegedly involved in the killing of one Haj Moner Said in Tipo-Tipo, Basilan in 1998.

Tecson said Ijajil and a certain Mumar Asanin were in charge "of maintaining the Manila-Basilan materials pipeline as well as collecting intelligence in the metropolis for the terror group."

Tecson said Ijajil joined the Tableegh, an informal organization of Islamic religious leaders, in 1991.

He said Ijajil had been to the Middle East on several occasions on Tableegh-related missions.

He said Ijajil joined Barahama Sali, the Basilan-based Abu Sayyaf, in 1994 and participated in the bloody 1995 raid on Ipil, Zamboanga del Sur, that killed more than 50 people. He also maintained a 15-man army in the Sampinit complex in the jungles of Basilan, Tecson said.

Authorities also announced that five members of the Abu Sayyaf were killed in clashes with the military in Basilan over the weekend.

Military southern command chief Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu said troops caught up with an Abu Sayyaf unit in Basilan's Maluso town, triggering clashes that left four rebels dead. *With an AFP report*

Gov't may revive case vs Joe de V

By Blanche S. Rivera

DE VENECIA

THE PRESIDENTIAL Commission on Good Government is considering reviving the court cases against those Marcos cronies who did not comply with the compromise agreements they signed, including Speaker Jose de Venecia.

At least 16 compromise agreements are now being reviewed by the new PCGG administration. The cronies involved are said to have failed to comply with the provisions of the settlements they concluded with the government for which they were granted immunity from prosecution.

PCGG Commissioner Ruben Carranza Jr. said the PCGG would not hesitate to revive the cases against the defendants in the Marcos ill-gotten wealth cases, like De Venecia, who have not fulfilled their end of the bargain after 15 years.

"We are already drafting the demand for compliance of the 16 compromise agreements that need to be reviewed," Carranza said.

De Venecia was a major shareholder in the Landoil Corp., which entered into a compromise with the PCGG in exchange for the termination of Civil Case No. 020 against its stockholders.

Carranza said the firm failed to turn over company shares of stocks as well as proceeds from the liquidation of company assets in the United States in accordance with a US court decision.

While De Venecia was not himself a signatory to the compromise, his shares were among those sequestered but were not handed over to the government, he said.

The PCGG is also looking into the compromise agreements with Anos Fonacier and the estate of the late Roberto Benedicto.

The PCGG has dropped the charges against the two but discovered only recently that some of the terms of the compromise settlement were not complied with to the disadvantage of the government.

Fonacier and Benedicto failed to surrender certain real estate properties, including shares in the Cebu Plaza Hotel.

The PCGG has turned down a new proposal from De Venecia for the government to enter into another compromise agreement with Imelda Marcos, the widow of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, and Marcos crony Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr. to generate revenues.

Carranza said De Venecia's proposal for a compromise settlement with the defendants in the coconut levy funds case was "exactly the same" as the coco levy trust fund approved by jailed ex-President Joseph Estrada which was rejected by President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Speaker a Palace 'vassal,' says solon

By Volt Contreras

AN OPPOSITION congressman opened the resumed House sessions yesterday with an attack on Speaker Jose de Venecia whom he called a "vassal of Malacañang" for his "unconstitutional" decision to suspend House investigations for six months.

In a privilege speech, Iloilo Rep. Rolex Suplico said he saw a "grand conspiracy" in De Venecia's move and accused the Speaker of using the so-called "Gang of Five" extortion scandal to "set the stage" for the moratorium.

However, pro-De Venecia forces immediately moved to deflect Suplico's attack.

Antique Rep. Exequiel Javier clarified that what the Speaker had presented was a mere "proposal to suspend" House investigations in the wake of the Gang of Five scandal.

"Was there really a gag order issued and received by the House committees?" Javier asked Suplico.

The Iloilo congressman could not give a straight answer.

In a press statement, De Venecia clarified that the moratorium was still only a proposal that he intends to take up in a multi-party caucus next week.

But even if the suspension were to take effect, the investigation of issues of "great national interest" would still be allowed, he said.

The proposed moratorium was actually "intended to speed up House action on most urgent measures" vital to the economy like the money-laundering bill, he said.

In his speech, Suplico also chided Malacañang for praising the Speaker in his efforts to allegedly "clip" the chamber's powers.

"The (Gang of Five) controversy gave the Speaker an issue (to justify) a gag order on Congress… and a knife to castrate Congress… and an opportunity to serve his true master, the President, and not the Filipino people," the LDP congressman declared.

"That controversy exposed the Speaker for what he truly is, a vassal of Malacañang with no real interest to protect the independence of the House," he said.

Suplico was one of five congressmen named in newspaper reports as members of a Gang of Five in House which allegedly extorted money from the cellular phone firms Smart and Globe at a time when the committee on transportation and communications was investigating them.

Transport chief readies counter-suit vs accusers

By Abigail L. Ho

THE GROUP of airport concessionaires that filed a P76-million plunder case against Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez could be facing another lawsuit soon.

Alvarez said in a news briefing yesterday that he would file criminal charges within the week against MIA-NAIA Association of Service Operators (Maso) spokesperson Perfecto Yasay Jr. and other Maso officials.

"We're just trying to put everything in order. Hopefully we can file within the week," he said.

Alvarez said he and his lawyers did not want to file the case hastily so they were really studying it well. "I don't want to present a fake witness," he said.

In the case Maso filed against Alvarez with the Office of the Ombudsman, an affidavit signed by a certain Venner Mendoza was included.

Mendoza accused officials of Naia Terminal 3 contractor Philippine International Air Terminals Co. Inc. (Piatco), its subcontractor Wintrack Builders Inc. and the Manila International Airport Authority of asking him to bloat the actual measurements of the work done at the Naia Terminal 3 by as much as 500 percent.

He later recanted this testimony and said he was approached by Maso president Jovino Lorenzo Jr. and offered $200,000 to testify against the accused parties.

But Lorenzo denied this and said Mendoza signed the first affidavit before Department of Justice state prosecutor Juan Navera, while the second affidavit was signed before a mere notary public.

However, Alvarez said it did not matter where Mendoza signed the affidavit, whether before a state prosecutor or just a notary public. He said what was more important was who actually signed the affidavit.

"The notary public is an Iglesia ni Cristo member, like Mendoza. He wouldn't lie about something like that. Besides, the state prosecutor said it was a different Mendoza who signed the first affidavit—someone other than the real Mendoza," he said.

Alvarez accused the Maso officials of presenting an "impostor" before the state prosecutor and the Ombudsman.

Aside from criminal charges, Alvarez said they were also studying the possibility of suing Maso for damages.

Yasay and Lorenzo are already facing a lawsuit worth over P12 million filed by Wintrack and its three directors, Luisito, Carlitos and Ronald Clavano.

Meanwhile, Yasay last week said Maso will also file charges of "subornation and obstruction of justice" against Alvarez and the other groups and individuals who allegedly "coerced" Mendoza into siding with them.

10 cops charged with murder for 'mistake killing'

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE OMBUDSMAN has initiated criminal proceedings against 10 agents of the Philippine National Police Intelligence Group (PNP-IG) involved in the mistaken killing of a hotel executive and his daughter's friend in Quezon City last May.

Ombudsman Aniano Desierto filed murder and frustrated murder charges before the Quezon City Regional Trial Court against the agents but did not include their superior, Police Chief Supt. Reynaldo Berroya, in the complaint.

Berroya was PNP-IG head when the police agents shot and killed New World Hotel chief steward Fernando Lozada, 48, and his daughter's friend, Marianne Uson, 18, in a case of mistaken identity.

The agents were reportedly on the trail of the kidnappers of the son of a former Quezon City judge, Mark Harris Bacalla.

The agents reportedly mistook Lozada's blue Mitsubishi Lancer for the kidnappers' vehicle and gave chase on Araneta Avenue QC.

On catching up to the car they peppered it with automatic rifle fire, killing Lozada and wounding his daughter Clarissa, 17, and Uson. Uson later died of her wounds.

Desierto identified the charged officers as Police Supt. Edgar Iglesia, Police Chief Insp. James Mejia, Police Senior Insp. Edwin Portento, Police Inspectors Preston Bagangan, Ceazar Percival Pangda and Christine Tabdi, and PO1s John Bolatin, Arnold Solas, Cheerlyn Tundayag and Frederick Taala.

US tourist slain in Davao

DAVAO CITY—An American tourist, who had been in the city almost a month, was found dead from a gunshot wound to the head at the Insular Village here yesterday morning.

Police said Charles Williams Sens, 52, of Bricelyn, Minnesota, had been staying at the Waterfront Insular Hotel beside the Insular Village since Aug. 26 and was scheduled to check out today.

He was last seen by hotel staff on Sunday night at the hotel casino in the company of two women, Agence France Presse reported.

Chief Insp. Hubert Abadia, Sasa district police station chief, said a .357-cal. revolver with six rounds was found one meter from Sens' body.

Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Whaat? Bad Breath?
No need to consult with medical experts.
The cause of bad breath has been diagnosed and pinpointed.
Therabreath ™ System is the solution to the problem. It is guaranteed to cure *bad breath, bitter-sour taste, phlegm in throat, pasty saliva, awful morning breath.*
Free Delivery w/in Metro Mla - Moneyback Guarantee
Pls. Call: Norville Fresh Breatheraphy Center
890-8380; 895-5532; 895-6775

Need Help? We fix all computer problems,
...specially computer VIRUS!
FAST & RELIABLE
ON-SITE SERVICE
Call our hotline today
PCMed 303-8888
Service & Support
Save this ads for your future requirements.

Introducing
WRIST BP MONITOR
- Handy and Portable
- 100% Accurate
- Ideal for travel
- 2 pcs. "AAA" Batteries

"TRAVEL MATE"
WRIST BP
fareastmedical.net
SM MANILA 5TH FLR. 484-1471
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

SM MEGAMALL	SM FAIRVIEW	SM NORTH EDSA
5th Flr., Bldg. A 635-04-36	Basement 418-75-40	Car Park Plaza 453-3326
CEBU 262-32-39	SM SOUTHMALL Basement 800-40-93	GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN Shoppesville 721 34 87

Diamonds
We are BUYING
loose DIAMONDS and
BIG DIAMOND JEWELRIES
Any Quantity! Any Quality!
Above 1 carat to any size!
Confidential and comfort are promised!
Feel SAFE. Have NO RISK. Get CASH Payment!
- We can help you redeem your items
- Special arrangement for regular suppliers
- Optional: High Pawning Value for Diamonds

Diamond Sources Pawnshop, Inc.
is a related company to one of the biggest
diamond exporters in the world.
Therefore, Diamond Sources has the best outlet
for your diamonds and will be able to pay
you high price for your diamonds!
GET THE MAXIMUM VALUE FOR YOUR DIAMONDS! SELL TO US!
Big and VERY BIG transactions are most welcome.
Diamond Sources Pawnshop, Inc. (CPPI Member)
Mandaluyong Branch
23 Edsa Arcade
111 Edsa Mandaluyong City
Monday - Friday By Appointment
Tel : 636-2816
Fax : 632-9505
Pager: 1277-89270
E-mail: dsources@nationgator.com

OWN A RESIDENTIAL UNIT
MADISON MANOR CONDO
NO RESERVATION NO DOWNPAYMENT

FIRST RESIDENTIAL CONDO IN LAS PIÑAS
W/ 2BR & PARKING FOR ONLY P1.2M+
FREE Dryer Machine for Buyers!
INFRONT OF SM SOUTHMALL
For inquiries, please call:
LH SANTILLAN 861-1825 / 861-1835 / 0917-4909448
VIC 484-1541 / 0919-4256006
GLOBAL HOMES 243-1481/ 245-1043
ANABELLE 822-7117 / 0917-5345094

DESIGNED TO LAST
INDUSTRIAL COLD SERIES

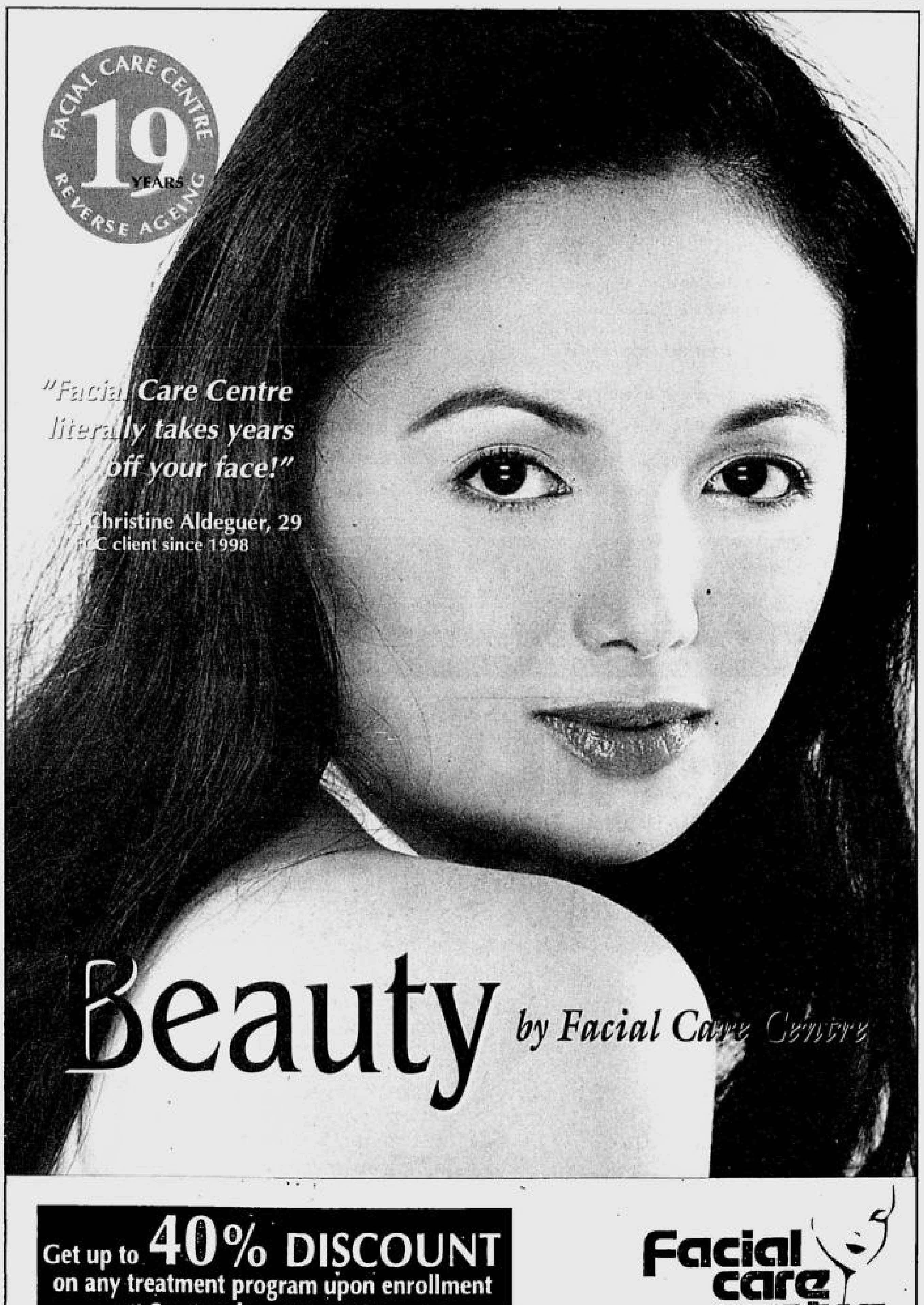
Prima
1500 PSI
WH 2111
2500 PSI
TX 952
3 phase

Major Credit Cards Accepted.
Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.
FROM THE NO. 1 IN HIGH PRESSURE WASHERS
With AFTER SALES SERVICE
Exclusively Distributed by: CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL, INC.
Main Office: Kimika Bldg., 1851 M. Orosa St., Malate, Mla. Telefax 5244380
Tel. Nos.: 5244472 • 5240529 Trunkline: 5245290
Quezon City Br.: 646 Quezon Ave., Q.C. across Sto. Domingo Church Bet. G. Araneta Ave. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709

In Times of Crisis, be in the RIGHT BUSINESS!
"HOW TO MAKE A FORTUNE AS LENDING INVESTOR"
(Its Organization, Management & Operation)
September 29 (Saturday), 2001, 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM
2/F Medalla Bldg., EDSA, Cubao, Q.C.
Call 912-5685 / 911-1257 / 913-5180

ATTENTION LOT OWNERS
FOR YOUR CONSTRUCTION NEEDS WE BUILD:
3 BR 2 T&B (72) = ₱ 780,000
Ceramic tiles at living, dining & kitchen
Vinyl tiles at bedrooms
French windows
Anay finish facade
Long span color roof

3 BR 1 T&B (60) = ₱ 570,000
Vinyl tiles at living, dining, kitchen and bedrooms
French windows. Anay finish facade
Corrugated G.L.Sht roofing
2 BR 1 T&B (42) = ₱ 357,000
STANDARD FINISH
SERVICES
Residential Mass housing project
Commercial Subd. development
Townhouses Condominiums
ORIENT ORIENT-REALTY CORP.
Rm. 409 Strata 100 Bldg. Emerald Ave.
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
TEL. NOS. 632-12-71



FACIAL CARE CENTRE
19 YEARS
REVERSE AGEING
"Facial Care Centre literally takes years off your face!"
– Christine Aldeguer, 29
FCC client since 1998
Beauty by Facial Care Centre

Get up to 40% DISCOUNT on any treatment program upon enrollment until September 30, 2001 only!

Facial care centre
Where Beautiful Skin Happens
NOW OPEN

MAKATI	ORTIGAS	QUEZON CITY	SHAW	ALABANG	BINONDO	CONGRESSIONAL	PAMPANGA	CEBU
817-3323	687-2196	372-6633	534-7701/02	842-1144	242-2148	920-7938	961-3404/08	233-7631
812-6080/81	687-2197	372-6634	717-0076	809-9583 / 850-4577	242-2185	920-7992 / 920-8064	860-2663/64	233-7633/35
Solid Mills Bldg., dela Rosa St.	631-3007 • 631-3045 Robinsons Equitable Tower, ADB Ave.	410-3709 • 410-3710 Cedar Executive Bldg. Timog Avenue	Sunshine Square Plaza	Citibank-Frabelle Bldg. Alabang-Zapote Rd.	Federal Tower Bldg. Dasmariñas St.	Q Plaza Congressional Avenue	Dan's Marketing Bldg., McArthur Highway, San Fernando	Keppel Centre, Cebu City

ALL CENTERS ARE NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK. Per DTI-NCR Permit #2882, Series of 2001
MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SAT. (8 AM - 5 PM) / SUN. (10 AM - 3 PM)

Clark, Subic, Mactan open to US jets

(From page A1)

Ocampo urged the Philippine government to stop the refueling stops and to "avoid any military support to the Americans' war effort."

Ocampo said that if the Philippines continued extending assistance to the war effort, this would "endanger" it and "open it to retaliatory attacks."

At the Clark Special Economic Zone, Col. Charles Hotchkiss, deputy commander of the 600th Air Base Wing, said the Philippine Air Force was "prepared to host" the US military.

"We are ready for it any time," said Hotchkiss, whose unit hosts the PAF's Air Force City in Clark.

The city, which serves as base of seven PAF units, or one-third of its strength, occupies 315 hectares adjacent to the 2,500-hectare Clark International Airport.

But investors are wary.

Lito Mercado, acting president of the Clark Investors and Locators Association (Cila), said using Clark now for military purposes would "hamper (its) development."

"Clark might be a target of attacks because it looks like it's going to be a base for anti-terrorism actions," Mercado said. "Investors will take a wait-and-see attitude. Either expansion plans will be put on hold or they will go elsewhere."

He added that the tight security to be enforced in Clark would impede the movement of goods and services there.

Prior notice

Secretary Reyes said the refueling of US warplanes in Philippine air bases was "covered by agreements."

"As long as there is prior notice, prior clearances issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), there's nothing wrong with that," he said, adding that the same rule applied to countries other than America.

Asked if this was the only requirement for the allied use of Philippine air bases, Reyes said: "Of course, all of these are coordinated and with prior clearance."

With DFA clearance, allied warplanes can land and refuel upon coordination with the Air Transportation Office (ATO).

Reyes said the Philippine government was also involved in information sharing to track down terrorist cells worldwide.

"Well, it's undeniable that the Philippines was the site of international terrorist activities in the early 1990s," he said.

He also said that "no doubt about it, the Philippine government will support and extend all possible and appropriate assistance to the UN and the US."

At the Senate, Drilon told reporters that "transient stops are not prohibited."

"What is prohibited is a basing arrangement without a treaty being signed, and this is not what has transpired," he said.

But he said America should respect the Philippines' "constitutional restriction" on the entry of nuclear weapons.

In a statement, Recto said US authorities should seek permission from the ATO for each and every flight, and make sure their warplanes were not armed while in Philippine territory.

He said the "pit stops" by US fighter jets must be welcomed "because these allow the country to contribute to the global effort to combat terrorism without putting a single Filipino soldier in the line of fire."

"Allowing F-18s to land here does not automatically make us a banana republic or a colonial outpost of the United States," Recto said. "We are an independent nation, and our offer of assistance to the US was made out of free will."

Biazon and Magsaysay said allowing refueling stops was in keeping with the Philippines' active support of the global fight against terrorism.

Pimentel said the stops were "okay, as long as these are not done on a commercial basis."

Not for monuments

Osmeña said he did not mind that US F-18s stopped for refueling in Cebu last week.

"Why do you think (the Americans) spent so much money in the airports in General Santos City and Mactan? To leave behind monuments? It is to use these when the time comes," he told reporters.

Osmeña also said he had not changed his position that the return of US military bases in the country would be beneficial to the country and regional security.

He acknowledged, however, that the Constitution had to be amended to this end.

The DFA said the government did not waive its anti-nuclear prohibition despite the blanket authority given to the President to approve or disapprove US requests to refuel, fly over or land troops here as part of its anti-terrorist offensive.

It quoted the US government as saying that the three F-18s that refueled in Cebu did not carry nuclear weapons.

America, however, has maintained a "neither confirm nor deny" policy on the matter.

Still, DFA spokesperson Vic Lecaros said: "We trust they respect our constitutional ban on nuclear weapons."

Blackmail

In a statement, Bayan Muna's Ocampo said the PAF made "a fool of the people when it said the refueling of the F-18s and others scheduled this week are not in any way connected to the US planned attack on Afghanistan."

"It is deplorable to hear that the US can just land and refuel their jets in the country and not reveal what these planes are for, although we clearly know their intent," he said, adding:

"Top officials keep harping that we have no choice (regarding) the US call to join them or face economic and political embargo. This is virtual blackmail of small countries like the Philippines."

Ocampo said there was "no doubt that we must combat terrorism." But the Philippines can do this, not by extending "blind support" to America, but "by implementing stringent immigration policies that will prevent the country from being a haven for terrorists," he said.

He also said the Philippines should concentrate "on crushing the Abu Sayyaf, which has known links to international terrorists."

Cila's Mercado attributed investor resistance to Clark's hosting US troops and warplanes to slow business in the economic zone.

He said big electronics companies like Kita and Sampo had downsized or shifted operations to China, where labor was cheaper. Mercado said hotel and communications companies could expect benefits but that these might be short-term.

He said the 100-member Cila had aired its reservations to Clark officials who, he noted, were themselves not clear on America's plans.

"We want to know exactly what 'use' means. Is it limited to refueling only?" he said.

In Angeles City, Mayor Carmelo Lazatin told the INQUIRER that they would extend full support to the President's decision.

But he admitted that the communities had yet to be consulted on security and safety issues.

No clear orders

Hotchkiss said that he learned of the planned use of Clark and Subic by US forces "only in the papers," and that who will do what was still unclear.

Clark airport manager Bienvenido Manga said he learned of the plan in the same manner. He said the instruction of PAF Chief Lt. Gen. Benjamin Defensor was "to just do our job."

Hotchkiss said that if the south ramp would be used, the PAF would assist the US military, and if the north ramp would be used, the Clark International Airport Corp. would be on the job.

But Clark has no radar. Information on an incoming US military aircraft will be sent by the ATO or the Villamor Air Base, both based in Metro Manila, through phone or radio.

Nevertheless, at least 50,000 barrels of jet fuel are available at Clark. At El Paso in Subic, the tanks are holding a two-month supply, according to marketing director Richard Reyes.

But at the DFA, the "Filipinos around Afghanistan" are the "primary concern."

"We have to make sure that none of them is hurt," Lecaros said at a news briefing.

Some 1.3 million Filipinos are working in the Middle East. The DFA earlier said only 2,000-2,500 might be evacuated because they were "closest to the theater of action." *With reports from Dona Pazzibugan and Rocky Nazareno*

RP Embassy in Pakistan to evacuate dependents

THE PHILIPPINES has ordered its embassy in Pakistan to repatriate 25 dependents of mission staff ahead of a looming US military strike in neighboring Afghanistan, the foreign department said yesterday.

Sending the diplomats' wives and children would allow the mission to work full time in preparing for the possible evacuation of about 580 other Filipinos working or studying in Pakistan, foreign department spokesperson Victoriano Lecaros said.

"It is possible that family members of embassy personnel might otherwise distract the activities of the embassy," Lecaros told reporters. The dependents' departure would depend on the availability of flights, he added.

Western embassies in Islamabad have already evacuated diplomats' dependents last week as US forces assembled a huge military force to go after Osama bin Laden, the Saudi fugitive accused of masterminding terrorist attacks that left more than 6,000 people dead on US soil two weeks ago.

The Philippines has expressed its full support to the operation.

Lecaros said the embassy has dispatched consular teams to the cities of Lahore and Karachi to check on Filipinos in the area. *AFP*

Lacson: I'm not attending

(From page A1)

and they immediately claimed it as such."

He added: "They are that shameless."

He said that he also obtained documents disproving Corpus' allegation that he stashed large amounts of undeclared wealth in US banks.

Lacson said two accounts he opened at Bank of America branches in Los Angeles were closed due to "insufficiency of funds." One only had $561, he said.

The senator has previously admitted opening and closing only one account in a Bank of America branch in the United States. Even earlier, he denied ever opening any accounts there at all.

He told reporters yesterday that he saw no need to present the documents to three Senate committees jointly investigating Corpus' allegations—or to any other government agencies.

"Why should I present my documents when (Corpus and his witnesses) have not presented any?" Lacson asked.

'I won't be nice'

But Justice Secretary Hernando Perez said the documents would be useless unless they were authenticated by a Philippine consul.

A visibly irked Perez said he "cannot be blackmailed by anyone," responding to claims that Lacson has the goods on Perez in connection with the controversial "Impsa deal."

"No, I'm not going to be nice to (Lacson)," the justice chief told reporters when asked to react to text messages that he would be "kinder" to the lawmaker now that the latter reportedly possesses evidence against Perez.

The text messages said that Lacson was able to gather documents linking Perez to the controversial deal allowing an Argentine-based company to rehabilitate the Caliraya-Botocan-Kalayaan hydroelectric plant in Laguna, allegedly under terms grossly disadvantageous to the government.

After the press conference, Perez told the INQUIRER, "*Nakakagigil, eh.* There is no basis to these text messages."

He warned: "I will not let go of prosecuting anyone against whom there is evidence. I will not persecute anyone but I will not hesitate to prosecute anyone against whom there is evidence."

Front liner

Perez is being questioned for allegedly endorsing the P351-million project bid of Impsa or Industrias Metalurgicas Pescarmona SA.

Earlier reports said Perez's timing is being questioned since he submitted the endorsement two days after President Macapagal-Arroyo came into power.

In earlier interviews, Perez has said he only reiterated a previous ruling made by his predecessor, Justice Secretary Artemio Tuquero, when he endorsed the project.

Perez has apparently earned the ire of Lacson for being one of the front liners in attempts to pin down the senator for various alleged crimes.

Perez's department, for instance, attempted to revive the Kuratong Baleleng multiple murder case against Lacson.

Also, state prosecutors under Perez's supervision have filed charges against Lacson's aides—Senior Supts. Michael Ray Aquino and Cesar Mancao—in the double murder case of publicist Salvador "Bubby" Dacer and his driver Emmanuel Corbito.

Show will go on

Lacson reiterated that there was no truth to allegations that he was involved in drug trafficking, kidnapping activities or any other crimes while he headed the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force (PAOCTF).

Corpus "admitted that these charges will not stand in court, that is why (he) turned to the media and (is) now using the Senate investigation to destroy my reputation," according to Lacson.

He cautioned the Corpus camp against presenting fraudulent papers. "If they submit those kinds of documents, that's where I will hit them—for perjury," he said.

Asked whether he planned to seek a suspension of the hearings due to the failure of his critics to so far show hard proof, Lacson said he would leave such a decision to the Senate majority.

But Sen. Joker Arroyo and Sen. Robert Barbers, respective chairs of the blue ribbon and public order committees, said the hearings would go on.

Arroyo said there was even more reason to proceed with the investigation in the light of the issue of an anti-money laundering bill pending in Congress.

Erap still . . .

(From page A1)

Singapore's Straits Times newspaper reported yesterday.

Businessmen friends, who used to seek his favor, are not visiting him in his hospital-prison, and his knees are aching from arthritis.

"I never imagined going into prison. I never dreamed of becoming a prisoner," the 64-year-old former actor, deposed by a popular uprising in January, told the Straits Times.

"From mayor to senator, vice president, president and now, a prisoner. I never imagined such a bitter fate will befall me. I still cannot believe what has happened to me," he added.

Estrada said he was "very depressed. Every day, I try hard to encourage myself and to maintain my resolve. I have not lost hope but it has been very difficult and very depressing."

He is being held at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center in Quezon City while being prosecuted for plunder, a term for large-scale corruption, which is punishable by death. His pleas for house arrest have been rejected.

The Sandiganbayan, an anti-graft court, is to begin hearing evidence in the plunder case on Oct. 1. He is accused of amassing at least $80 million through illegal means including taking bribes and kickbacks from a nationwide gambling syndicate.

Politicians say Estrada is unlikely to be put to death. His successor President Macapagal-Arroyo has stopped carrying out criminal executions, which Estrada resumed while in power.

Still defiant

The Straits Times said the heavy curtains were always drawn shut in the spacious but spartan hospital suite where Estrada was being held. But while he found his current conditions depressing, he was defiant about the charge.

"I am not one bit worried (about the trial) because I'm not guilty. I may have made a lot of mistakes but graft and corruption is not one of them. In the end, I know I will be vindicated," he said.

"I just want to clear my name and lead a quiet life. I'm through with politics," Estrada said.

His lawyers yesterday sought to again seek the dismissal of the third criminal case filed against him.

In a six-page urgent manifestation and motion, the defense lawyers asked the Sandiganbayan's Third Division to quash the illegal use of alias case, after the Ombudsman ruled against Estrada in its recently concluded second preliminary investigation.

Ombudsman Aniano Desierto asked the court on Friday to schedule for today Estrada's arraignment on the case. Until late afternoon yesterday, the court did not issue summons for Estrada.

Jose Velarde

Former Sen. Rene Saguisag and Felix Carao Jr., Estrada's lawyers, said there was no truth to the prosecution's contention that the former President had "habitually and publicly used the name of Jose Velarde."

They sought to reinstate the motion to quash they had filed on May 25, 2001 in the illegal use of alias case, claiming that the prosecution's amended information did not state the details of the alleged habitual and public use by Estrada of the name Jose Velarde.

They claimed there was no "definite statement of time and place" where Estrada supposedly used the name Jose Velarde from the prosecution in its amended information, except for the Feb. 4, 2000 incident in Malacañang.

This incident refers to the claim of former Equitable PCI Bank vice president Clarissa Ocampo that she saw Estrada sign bank documents using the name Jose Velarde inside the Palace that day. *AFP, with a report from Donna S. Cueto*

INSEAD

The Premier Global MBA Programme

Singapore & Fontainebleau campuses

INSEAD is keen to meet with candidates interested in applying for our full-time MBA Programme starting September 2002 and January 2003 in Singapore and France. We will be in Manila on the following date and invite you to join us to find out more about the INSEAD MBA Programme.

INSEAD MBA Information Session in
(event kindly sponsored by ABN AMRO)
MANILA

Thursday 27th September 2001 at Makati Shangri-La
Ayala Avenue, corner Makati Avenue, Makati City 1200
From 7:00pm to 9:30pm

To register for this event, and to find out more about the INSEAD MBA Programme, please visit our website at:

www.insead.edu/MBA

- A rigorous one-year, full-time MBA programme in Singapore, France or both
- Over 60 nationalities: a unique multicultural learning environment
- An 11.000-strong global alumni network of business leaders
- NEW: The INSEAD-ABN AMRO Global Loan Programme to cover tuition fees

The BIGGEST and MOST-COMPREHENSIVE Construction Trade Show in Southeast Asia

Where the WORLD'S BEST and the PHILIPPINES' FINEST converge to do Business

11thPHILCONSTRUCT

PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING MATERIALS EXHIBITION

and Technology Forum 2001

NOVEMBER 15-18, 2001
World Trade Center Metro Manila
Pasay City, Philippines

Organized and Presented by: PCA ACEL

In cooperation with: dti Make it PHILIPPINES!

Supported by:
Metro Manila Builders and Developers Association
Construction Industry Authority of the Philippines
Society of Philippines Electrical Contractors and Suppliers
Philippine Institute of Interior Designers
CECOPHIL Council of Engineering Consultant of the Philippines
CMDF 1981 Construction Manpower Development Foundation
PALA Philippine Association of Landscape Architects
Institute of Integrated Electrical Engineers
WIC Women in Construction Foundation, Inc.

Over 400 Exhibitors from more than 20 countries including National Pavilions
From U.S.A., Australia, France, Italy, U.K., Japan, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, and Malaysia.

Features:
- Technology Forum on: How to Reduce Cement Factor in your Concrete, Equipment Managers Course, Risk Management & Basic Rigging Plan, Filtration.
- Low Cost Housing Village
- Pavilion of Leading Industry Associations
- On-Site Product Demonstration
- Retail Area

Join and Discover the Opportunities that fits you:
- discover new Partners
- discover new Products
- discover new Sources of Industry Information
- discover new Innovations
- See what the Competition is doing
- Enjoy On-Site Sales

Sponsored by: asi Automation & Security, Inc. The Board Room

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER: INQUIRER

ON-LINE MEDIA PARTNER: eYP E-YellowPages.ph

For more info:

CONVEX INTERNATIONAL
Unit 705 Annapolis Wilshire Plaza, #11Annapolis St.,
Greenhills, 1502 San Juan Metro Manila, Philippines
Tel. No. (632) 7264128 to 30, 7268664 to 65
Fax No.(632) 7244578
E-mail: convex@mozcom.com
Website: www.convex-ph.com

Pata meet to boost RP tourism, says DOT

TAIPEI—The Philippines has been chosen site of the Pacific Asia Travel Association (Pata) directors meeting in 2002.

The Pata decision was made after a pitch by Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon who is in Taiwan for this year's Pata directors' meeting.

In a press statement, the Department of Tourism said decision is a welcome lead-up to the expected declaration of "Visit Philippines 2003" by the World Tourism Organization during its 14th general assembly this week In Seoul, South Korea and Osaka, Japan.

Gordon said Philippine tourism development and promotional efforts are not about to decrease in the face of global developments adversely affecting the tourism industry.

"Domestic tourism will be pushed to its fullest. Local visitor movements will have to play its acknowledged role of propping up countryside development and in making our countrymen discover the country's scenic and cultural delights," he said.

Gordon was also scheduled to meet Filipino communities in this city to brief them on Volunteer 12, the Department of Tourism's banner program to tap some the country's estimated 7 million overseas Filipino workers as volunteer tourism promoters.

"Pata is Asia Pacific's leader and authority in tourism and travel. Hosting next year's meeting is among significant events we are undertaking to drum up promotions for Philippine tourism. A Pata meeting here conveys to the world that Philippine tourism means business. We will have another good venue to showcase the best of Filipino hospitality and culture," Gordon said.

Rosebud asked to testify for convicted kidnapper

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

ONG

BAGUIO CITY—Undercover agent Mary "Rosebud" Ong will be asked to testify in behalf of a Chinese man convicted here in January for what Ong has claimed was a kidnapping staged by the defunct Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force.

Ong's testimony will form the substance of a petition to the Supreme Court seeking a new trial for Chung Shiao Tseng, according to Florio Domalsin, a public defender assigned to Chung's case.

Chung and Leong Kuan were accused by the PAOCTF of abducting three Chinese businessmen last year.

Only Chung was convicted in the abduction of Chinese businessmen Jia Xuan Zheng, Liu Yao Wu and Sin Ho, while Leong was acquitted.

Both, however, still face charges for alleged possession of 16.22 grams of shabu reportedly found by PAOCTF agents in the house the kidnap victims were held.

The three victims, Jia, Sin and Liu, were rescued in a residential subdivision here on Jan. 11, 2000.

Three other kidnapping suspects—Shang Hai Chua, Antonio Lim Kao and Tony Lim—were declared fugitives and were tried in absentia alongside Chung and Leong Kuan. Only Leong was acquitted.

Ong told the Senate blue ribbon, public order and illegal drugs committees on Sept. 3 that PAOCTF agents staged last year's abduction of Sin, Jia and Liu to obtain information about a drug shipment that the policemen wanted to intercept.

She said the rescue of the three by the police was also a ruse.

"This clearly makes my clients the fall guys, but for whom, the PAOCTF or the triad, I don't know. Rosebud's testimony must be corroborated in court and must be made the basis for a new trial," Domalsin said.

In her Senate testimony, Ong identified one of the fugitive suspects, Shang, as "a drug lord" and the Philippine "counterpart" of alleged Hong Kong-based triad boss Lee Ming You.

Chung told the INQUIRER he was ordered by his Baguio-based employer to pick Shang up from the subdivision house where the kidnap victims were being held.

Chung said Shang was married to his employer, whose identity he refused to divulge.

He insisted, however, that he was the family cook and had no part in the kidnapping.

Leong, who also spoke to the INQUIRER last week, said he was the family driver.

Judge Ruben Ayson of the regional trial court here convicted Chung for the "lesser crime of illegal detention" after a yearlong trial, but not after noting in his ruling aberrations in the manner Chung was prosecuted.

Ayson said "private complainants (Sin, Liu and Jia)... never appeared in court to testify despite subpoenas and warrants of arrest issued (to) them."

"Even Cai Yen Hua, Sin's wife, who filed the initial complaint with the PAOCTF, was not presented in court," the ruling said.

STATE LAND
DIAMONDCREST VILLAGE
SAN JOSE DEL MONTE, BULACAN
2-STOREY TOWNHOUSE & SINGLE-ATTACHED HOUSE MODELS AVAILABLE
- ONLY 15-MINUTE DRIVE FROM SM CITY FAIRVIEW
- COMPLETE RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES AND AMENITIES WITH SWIMMING POOL
- AFFORDABLE DOWN PAYMENT AND MONTHLY AMMORTIZATION

BARGAIN IN LUXURY LIVING!
APPROVED BY THE HLRB UNDER LICENSE TO SELL # 00701
PLEASE CALL : 2421231 2421139 9397343 8447878 8452078 8452096

SUNPRO BLINDS
PRICES SO LOW
It's Unbelievable!
- Mini and Micro Aluminum Horizontal Blinds
- 2 Inch Woodstock Horizontal Blinds
- PVC and Fabric Vertical Blinds
- Sunscreen and Roller Blinds

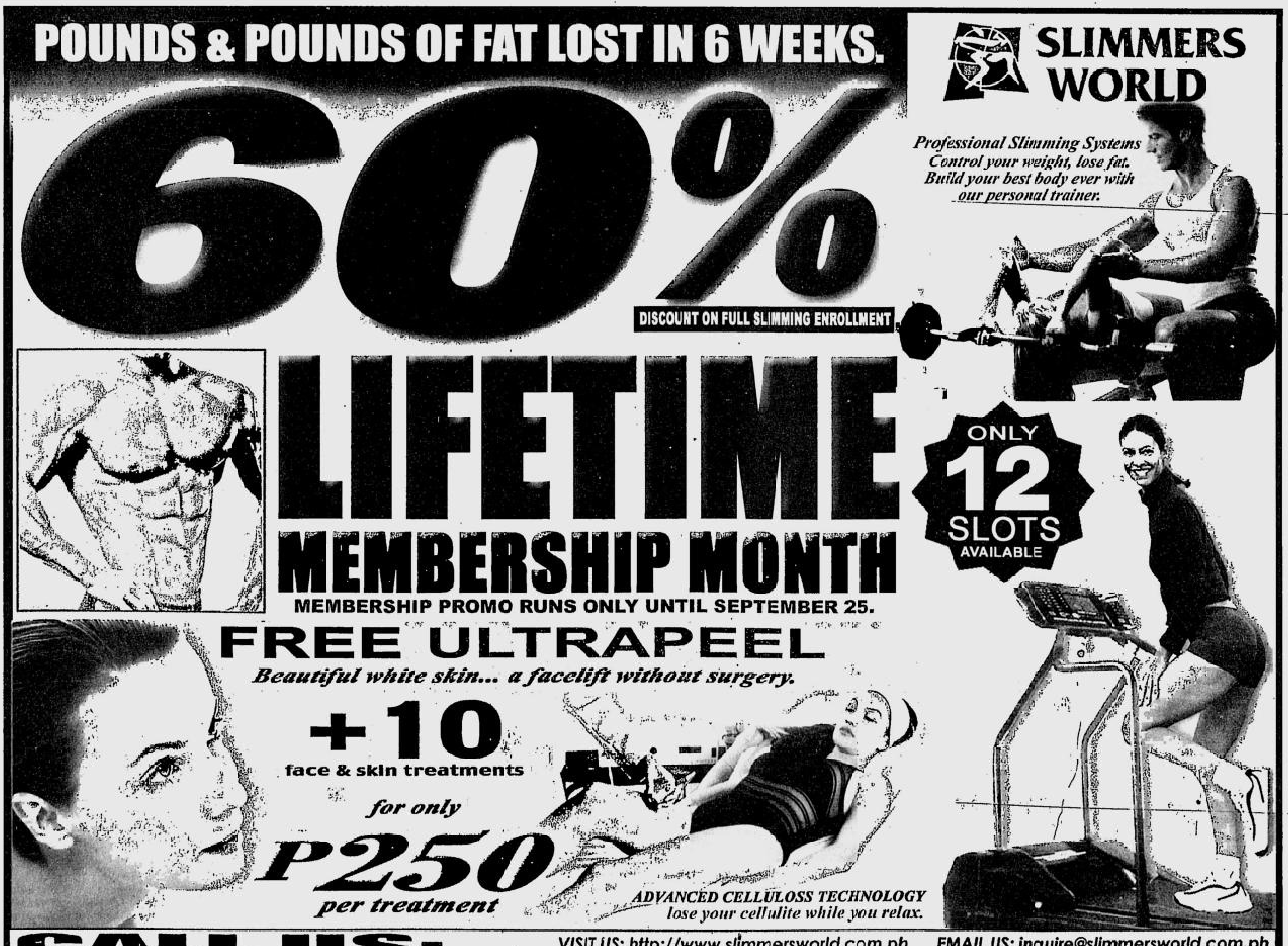
All made from high quality imported materials
Available at: PROJECTS UNLIMITED
Manila Tel.# 243-8888 to 95
Pasig Tel.# 632-1295 / 632-1297
Quezon City Tel.# 725-0412 / 726-2285 / 741-8980 / 712-8330

KIX® Interlocking Rubber Mats
SAFE PLAY ON THE RIGHT SURFACE
✓ MULTI-PURPOSE For sports, martial arts, homes schools, gyms, and play areas
✓ CONVENIENT Easy to store, transport, install, and dismantle
✓ DURABLE Unique "big-teeth" interlocking design for greater durability
✓ SAFE Made of high-grade rubber to absorb impact

SPECIFICATIONS	
SIZE	1 mt. x 1 mt.
THICKNESS	12mm. & 24mm.
COLORS	Orange, yellow Red, blue, gray Green & black

SPORTS
SCHOOLS & PLAY AREAS
HOMES
GYMS & MARTIAL ARTS
Big teeth

ORDER NOW!
Tel. Nos.743-8001 or 740-4695
Tel/Fax 732-5868
e-mail: kix@i-next.net
ASK ABOUT DISCOUNTS FOR VOLUME ORDERS



POUNDS & POUNDS OF FAT LOST IN 6 WEEKS.
SLIMMERS WORLD
Professional Slimming Systems Control your weight, lose fat. Build your best body ever with our personal trainer.
60% DISCOUNT ON FULL SLIMMING ENROLLMENT
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP MONTH
ONLY 12 SLOTS AVAILABLE
MEMBERSHIP PROMO RUNS ONLY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 25.
FREE ULTRAPEEL
Beautiful white skin... a facelift without surgery.
+10 face & skin treatments *for only* P250 *per treatment*
ADVANCED CELLULOSS TECHNOLOGY lose your cellulite while you relax.
CALL US:
VISIT US: http://www.slimmersworld.com.ph EMAIL US: inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

ALABANG	Karen	2nd Flr.. RCBC Bldg.	809-0396
BINONDO	Jannah	3/F Regina Garden II	242-1312
CALOOCAN	Maylene	6/F Panorama Bldg., Rizal Ave.	365-7654
CEBU	MM	Basement 1 & 2 Ayala Center	231-3254
GREENHILLS	Kei	27/F Atlanta Ctr. #31 Annapolis	726-6505
LEGASPI	Jaja	G/F Zeta Bldg. Salcedo St.	893-8934
MALATE	Ruth	6/F Pan Pacific Hotel, Adriatico St.	536-0619
MEGAMALL	Michelle	2/F Bldg. A Megamall	631-3869
PASAY RD.	Meg	1032 Arnaiz Ave. cor. Hernandez St.	887-1336
PASIG	Ailene	Restaurant Ave., Marcos Hi-way	681-5333
SM NORTH	Aileen	SM City 2/F SM Annex	929-5429
SUBIC	Ruza	2/F Times Sq. Bldg. Rizal Hi-way	252-6514
SALCEDO VILL.	Sheila	Trafalgar Plaza Dela Costa St.	814-0138

OPINION

RECYCLED NEWSPRINT • ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY • 100% soy ink

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net

EUGENIA D. APOSTOL
Founding Chairman

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Vol. 16 No. 289
ISSN
0116-2642

ISAGANI YAMBOT
Publisher

LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Editor in Chief

JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Managing Editor

ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
Associate Editor

ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.
News Editor

NILO B. PAUROM
Assistant News Editor

PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
National Editor

GERRY LIRIO
City Editor

ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
Senior Deskperson

JORGE V. ARUTA
Opinion Editor

FRANCOISE R. J OAQUIN
Night Editor

AMANDO DORONILA
Editorial Consultant

MARIXI R. PRIETO
Board Chairman

ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
President

RENATO R. REINOSO
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing

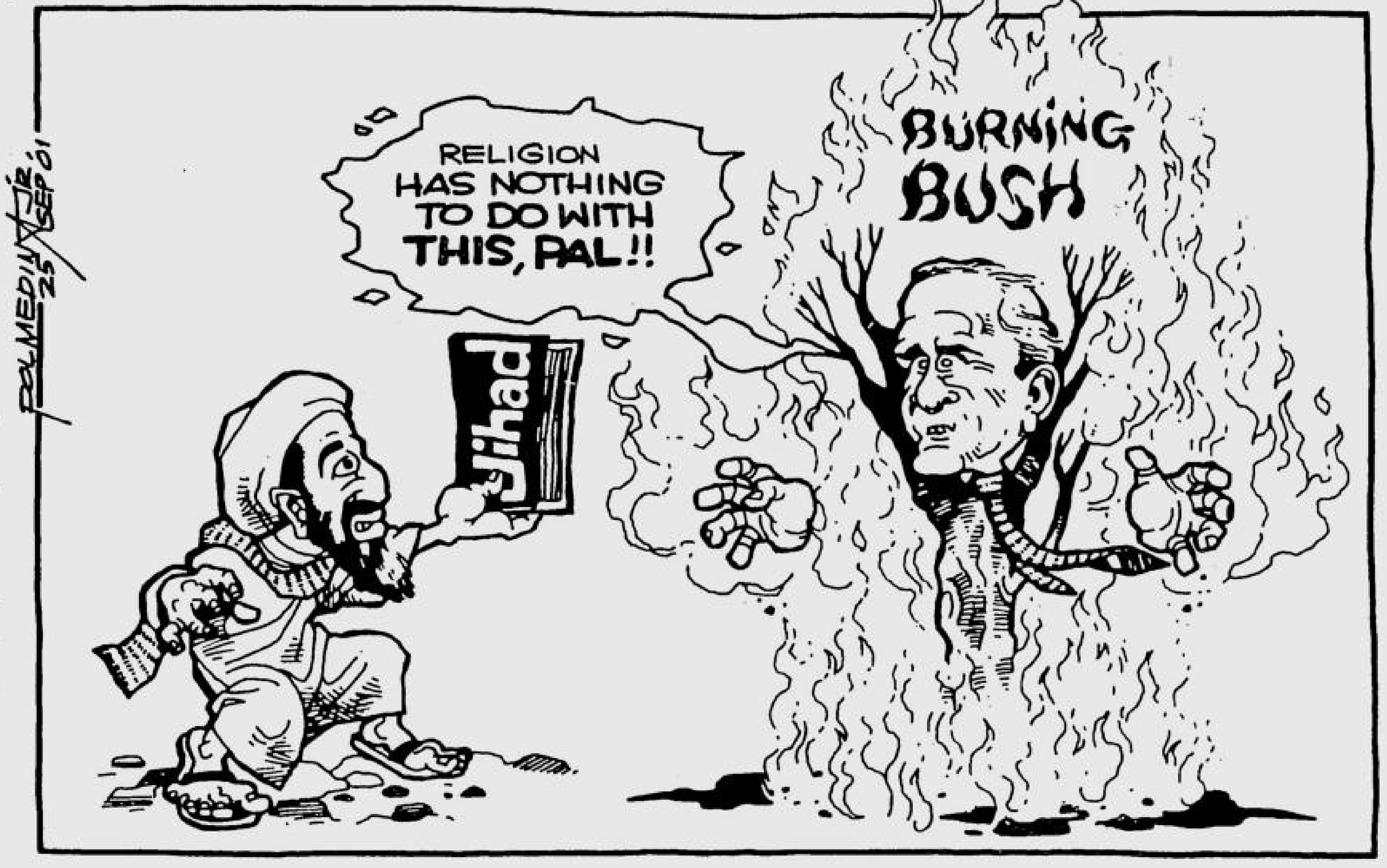
DAVID O. VALDES
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services

FELIPE R. OLARTE
VP for Advertising

GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL
AVP for Circulation

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati • P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office, 1263 Makati City, Philippines • Our new telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments; Editorial Fax 897-4793, 897-4794; Advertising 897-4807; Circulation 527-33-42, 527-33-48, 528-01-83, 528-01-86 and 528-02-13, Fax: 528-02-34.

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.



Move it

EDITORIAL

THE PANDACAN oil depot is a terrorist's dream; it should be relocated post-haste before it becomes a national nightmare.

A full six months ago, the Manila-based United Firefighters Association of the Philippines issued an appeal to the government and the country's major oil firms to begin the relocation of the depot immediately. Citing the disaster that visited a similarly congested part of Mexico City when a liquefied petroleum gas factory exploded in 1983, the firefighters warned of the firestorm that would inevitably sweep through the venerable city of Manila. If the depot's petroleum products spill into the Pasig River, the area to be affected would conceivably be even bigger, they said. If such a tragedy happened, the country's ill-equipped fire service would be completely, utterly, overwhelmed.

If the firefighters expected to galvanize public opinion or stimulate official action with their impassioned and scientifically sound argument, they were surely disappointed.

Part of the problem—the lack of response—is cultural. As a people, we are not very good at drawing, or acting upon worst-case scenarios. Often described, and proven by various surveys, as Asia's sunniest people, we prefer to put a positive spin on things. If it isn't a positive outlook, it is a fatalistic one: *Que sera, sera.*

We must be the only people who witnessed repeated coup attempts as though they were impromptu street parties—inadvertently raising the ubiquitous *usisero* into a national symbol (an annoying stereotype, just like Juan Tamad). In August 1987 and December 1989, during the two most damaging coup attempts, Filipinos from various walks of life continued to mill in the streets, to watch the fighting. Many must have been motivated by that very Filipino sense of providence: *Bahala na.*

Classified by the International Red Cross as one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world, the Philippines has a disaster-prevention and disaster-control program that is largely a patchwork affair. We basically know what to do when the cities flood again, but almost everything else is handled on a catch-as-catch-can basis. The humanitarian organizations that are best prepared, such as the Philippine National Red Cross and its local chapters, are perennially short of funds. Somehow, muddling through, we make do.

Until the next disaster. Last August, a small fire at the Quezon City Manor Hotel killed 75 hotel guests. Everyone could have been saved, if only the hotel had followed basic fire prevention rules: working fire alarms, clearly marked and unobstructed fire exits, and the like. But for the hotel owners, fire prevention was an unwanted expense. And for the fire inspectors, those who continued to issue clearances to the hotel in spite of flagrant violations, fire prevention was nothing more than a business opportunity.

The Manor Hotel fire provided another forum for the firefighters association to raise the Pandacan issue again. This time they created more of an impact, but as the weeks wore on the issue lost some of its urgency. Officials of the Bureau of Fire Protection even testified before a Senate committee on the danger that the oil depots posed to the public, but the dramatic presentation of a list of alleged firetraps, which included some of the country's toniest hotels and most modern hospitals, stole the spotlight.

The city government of Manila announced that they were in negotiations with the oil firms to relocate the depot, but admitted that the relocation would take place only in the medium term: in five to ten years.

The terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon last Sept. 11 have changed all that. City officials held a hearing and rendered a speedy decision. They now want the relocation to proceed within a period of six months to two years.

We commend them for their action. Now we ask them to steel their resolve, because moving a million-dollar facility is not easy. There is the cultural aspect, which must be met with a comprehensive information campaign. There is also the peso-and-centavos aspect.

We do not mean to suggest that the oil firms do not have the city's welfare in mind, but already, the talk has gone down to the level of costs: how many billions it will cost the oil firms to effect the transfer, how many pesos per liter the inevitable oil price increase would involve. "Monetizing" the issue, however, will serve no purpose other than to delay the relocation and, perhaps, to invite the inevitable.

The foiled assassination plot against the Pope

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

THE PRESENT world coalition against international terrorism being hammered out by the United States is full of ironies. Consider these:

1. One of the staunchest allies of the United States against terrorism is Israel, homeland of the Jews. But the original terrorists were the Jews, the Zionists. Zionism was a movement born prior to World War II for the purpose of reestablishing the Jewish national state of Israel in Palestine and the Zionists resorted to terrorism to force the recreation of Israel. Its first leaders, like David Ben Gurion, were former terrorists in the same way that Yasser Arafat, the present leader of the Palestinians, mortal enemy of Israel, is a former terrorist. Terrorism grew because the Jews proved to the world that it pays—sometimes. Is it poetic justice that Israel now finds itself the victim of terrorism by its enemies? And is it also poetic justice that New York, the victim of the most sensational and most deadly act of terrorism, is seen as a center of Jewish influence?

2. The pilots among the suicide hijackers were trained in the United States, by military and civilian instructors. It goes without saying that had the US not trained them to fly airplanes, they wouldn't have been able to fly those jets into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, right?

3. The Afghans who now shelter and protect terrorist Osama bin Laden were armed, financed and helped by the United States when they were fighting the Soviet Union. After the Afghan guerrillas forced the Soviets to go home after a decade of war, the rugged country became a training ground for terrorists targeting the United States. If war breaks out between the United States and Afghanistan, the guerrillas will turn those guns they got from the United States on American soldiers.

4. Bin Laden himself, principal suspect in the US attacks, is a former ally of the United States during the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The Central Intelligence Agency welcomed the arrival of the Saudi multi-millionaire to help finance the Afghan resistance against the Soviets. The CIA funded the construction of the Khost tunnel complex which it used as a major arms depot, medical center and training facility. Guess who helped build it. None other than Bin Laden, whose family has the biggest construction company in Saudi Arabia. Now Bin Laden is using his millions—and his expertise learned when he was working with the United States against the Soviets—against his former ally. And the United States now would like nothing better than to see him dead or in prison.

5. Pope John Paul II, during a visit to Kazakhstan, appealed for Christians and Muslims to work together for peace and not let the terrorist attacks on the United States last Sept. 11 drive a wedge between the two religions. Yet he himself almost became a victim of terrorists when he visited the Philippines in 1995.

* * *

Press Secretary Noel Cabrera, then deputy editor of The Manila Chronicle, wrote a series of stories on the foiled assassination attempt on the Pope, including the arrest of Ahmed's Filipino girl friend, Carol Santiago. (The police never told media what happened to her after the arrest.) But let Cabrera relate how the assassination attempt was discovered and foiled:

"It was about 10:30 that night of Jan. 6, 1995 when Roman Mariano, security guard of Josefa Apartments, noticed thick smoke coming out of Room 603's windows.

"Rushing up to the sixth floor, he saw tenant Naji Owaida Haddad and companion Said Ahmed feverishly trying to blow away the smoke coming out of the open door.

"Nothing to worry about, the two men of Middle Eastern features assured Mariano. They were just having some post-New Year fun and had lighted some pyrotechnics, the two said. No, they wouldn't allow the security guard to enter the room and check. Mariano left.

"But he was agitated, and suspicious. He had not heard any firecracker explosions though the corridor smelled strongly of gunpowder. Besides, the smoke was extraordinarily stinging to the eyes. He decided to confront Haddad and Ahmed once more.

"This time, the two let him enter the room. Nothing seemed unusual. Except for the pungent odor and the burning sensation to the eyes. And yes, there was a lot of salt, or what he though to be salt, strewn all over the kitchen sink."

Mariano knew something was wrong but he didn't know what it was. He went down to the lobby and asked the telephone operator to call the police.

"Little did Mariano realize," Cabrera continued, "that he had set off a sequence of events that was to lead to the unearthing of a plot to assassinate Pope John Paul II while on his visit to Manila from Jan. 12 to 16. And little did he know that the tenant of Room 603 was not really a mechanical engineer who worked with the W.A. Bohat Corp. in Casablanca, Morocco, but was actually Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, the explosives expert behind the February 1993 bombing of the New York World Trade Center."

To make a long story short, the police, after a search of the rented room, discovered chemicals for the manufacture of explosives, wirings, timing devices, detonators and bomb casings. They also found in the room a photograph of the Pope, several bibles, a laptop computer and other telltale signs of a plot against the Pope.

The police waited for the return of the two tenants and when Ahmed returned at 2 a.m., they arrested him. Yousef, however, never returned.

Just artists and entertainers

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

SOMEONE was just saying something about it last week. It must be the hardest thing in the world these days to sing "New York State of Mind," Billy Joel's very passionate and lyrical paean to his hometown. It must evoke very painful memories, quite apart from supplying new ones. Songs like that will never be the same again.

But last weekend, I did hear that song sung in just that way, evoking painful memories quite apart from supplying new ones. But it was done so beautifully. The one who sang it was the one who wrote it himself, Billy Joel. He did it very, very slowly, almost spitting out the words as though wringing them from his heart, or throat. At no time has the idea of New York being more than a place, being indeed a state of mind, been more resonant. These well-remembered lines took on special poignancy that night: "Comes down to reality, it's fine with me cause I let it slide/ Don't care if it's Chinatown or on the riverside/ I don't have any reasons, I left them all behind/ I'm in the New York state of mind." By that time, Mark Rivera's saxophone was wailing and sobbing unashamedly. But how they've both grown so much older, seemingly overnight!

I suddenly remembered someone telling CNN shortly after the razing of the World Trade Center that most of the jazz clubs not just around the area but also in most of Manhattan had closed down. Not from fear of more attacks but from the sudden pall of silence that had settled in New York like dust from the fallen towers. It was good to hear that silence broken in this way.

The occasion was the "Tribute to Heroes," a gathering that brought out America's biggest movie stars, musicians and other entertainers, which was aired on MTV last weekend. The heroes were the ordinary Americans made extraordinary by the deeds they did last Sept. 11, which have etched them forever in people's minds. The airline passengers who overcame fear and fought the hijackers, preventing what might have been a worse disaster, the plane being aimed at the White House. The cop who was set to retire who instinctively rushed to the scene of the disaster and tried to help the victims, ending up becoming a victim himself. The countless firemen, doctors, rescue workers and clerks who perished while helping others live. Many of them have been buried under the rubble, probably to lie there forever. But they will always live in the hearts of their grateful countrymen.

After the sounds of war and retribution coming from America's leaders over the last couple of weeks, it was good to hear words of peace and consolation from America's artists over the last couple of days. After calls for action and retaliation from the White House and Capitol Hill over the last couple of weeks, it was good to hear inducements to calm and reflection over the last couple of days. The tone of the "Tribute" was fortitude rather than anger, compassion rather than fury, a road less traveled, the taking of which made all the difference. Movie stars read accounts of the heroism of particular individuals and begged the audience to call up and help the families they left behind. And musicians sang songs of ache and longing, of remembering and extolling, of rising up and letting the spirit take wing. No one struck a note of discord, no one struck a chord of enmity.

I did not see the whole tribute and do not know if Paul Simon was there. I can't imagine anything having to do with New York that doesn't have him there. But I did see at least among the musicians I knew, apart from Billy Joel, Sting, Stevie Wonder and U2. I'm particularly glad for their inclusion because they stand heads and shoulders above their fellow musicians not merely for their extraordinary talents but for their extraordinary courage in battling for peace. Sting has been at the forefront of the human rights movement, Bono has spoken out against the evils of terrorism, having seen a good deal of them in his native Ireland, and Stevie Wonder, well, he is just one of those people who were given to the world to shower it with light.

Sting sang "Fragile" of course (it was almost inevitable). And nowhere did his lines, "Perhaps the final act was meant to clinch a lifetime's argument," but "nothing comes from violence, nothing ever could" resonate with so much meaning. That is not just a thought the Bin Ladens of this world would do well to contemplate, it is one all those who mean to lead wars to end all wars would do well to do so.

While at this, I'm also glad that someone sang Bob Marley's "Redemption Song" (I don't know if it was his son Ziggy who did). But that is a song worth pondering too. Particularly the lines: "Emancipate yourself from mental slavery, none but ourselves can free our minds/ Have no fear for atomic energy, none of them can stop the tide." That is a thought too that not only the Bin Ladens of this world do well to dwell on. It is one those who believe in the power of arms to free the world or build a new one would do well to do so.

Tom Hanks would say at one point, while importuning listeners to stand up to be counted, that only the whole of America could heal the nation's wounds, could appease the pain of the grieving. They themselves were just artists and entertainers, there were limits to what they could do. Ah, but if there were limits to what artists and entertainers can do, the borders looked blurred and hazy.

That tribute at least showed the endless possibility more than the finite limit. It showed that words and music did not just have the power to caress and soothe people's hearts, it had the power to rouse and awaken people's minds. It showed that art and entertainment did not just have the power to make people laugh and cry, they had the power to move people to ask the question why. It showed that artists and entertainers did not just have the power to heal people's bodies, they had the power revive a people's spirit.

That's more than jets and tanks and, yes, atomic energy can do.

Horse-trading time at CA

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

SOON President Macapagal's Cabinet members will appear before the Commission on Appointments for confirmation. That will start the official season for the traditional horse-trading, as senators and House members in the CA try to show the Cabinet officials how much power they wield over them. One way is for the politicians to insist on getting the Cabinet people to agree to the appointment of their protégés in their departments or to retain them.

Normally the Cabinet people accommodate the politicians' request, if they know what's good for them. After all, the legislators have the power not only over their budget, but also on their career in the Cabinet. If a nominee is rejected a couple of times by the CA, this could discourage the President, from reappointing the official.

But what bothers the Cabinet officials is when CA members try to get them to appoint or retain their protégés, who are either incompetent or corrupt or both. It then becomes very difficult for the Cabinet member, especially if he wants to do his job well. The problem is that the lawmaker at times would actually threaten the Cabinet officials with remarks like, "Remember, I am in the CA and I could make things difficult for you."

Okay *lang sana* if the legislators seek to wield power the way they do. That's political reality. But they should combine it with enough patriotism and love of country so that they don't push corrupt and incompetent protégés into the executive department. They should ensure that they sponsor only morally qualified and competent people.

* * *

I paid for my full passage to and from Japan aboard Philippine Air Lines, so this is no quid pro quo. But I want to point out that I was glad to note that PAL still makes the best landings among airlines. Going to Tokyo for the President's working visit there, I found the Boeing 747-400's landing smooth as silk under the command of Capt. Alex So. On my return to Manila a few days later, the landing was light as a feather again, this time under Capt. Alfredo M. Juliano and Chief Pilot Edgardo Gonzales. My husband fully shared my view about the smooth landings. I also noted that PAL departed on time in both instances. Congratulations.

* * *

Since the joint Senate hearings conducted by the blue ribbon, justice and public order committees on the issues raised by Col. Victor Corpus against Sen. Panfilo Lacson will resume tomorrow, after a three-week recess, perhaps it is timely to raise the observations made by former Senate President Jovito Salonga in a coming issue of Kilosbayan magazine. Salonga observed that the hearings suffered from lack of direction and focus, "as the witnesses and senators jumped from one charge to another." He opined that Sen. Robert Barbers in the beginning was principally concerned with clearing his aide, Stephen Villaflor, who was mistaken by Corpus for alleged drug lord Kim Wong. On the other hand, Sen. Edgardo Angara was more concerned in finding out from Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes just how much money was spent by the Macapagal administration for spying on opposition senators. Corpus was concerned with what he claimed to be "the creeping dominance of narco-politics" while Lacson, seemed eager to prove that the President was behind Corpus in an attempt to knock Lacson out of the 2004 presidential race.

Given all these disparate motives and the senators' shot-gun approach in the first round, Salonga opined that the best thing for the Senate to do when the hearings resume is to focus on evidence that is "not only relevant but material and competent." He recommended that the committees hire the services of experienced counsel of integrity, competence and dedication, who can undertake preliminary discussions with the witnesses, so that the questions of the senators "do not overlap, confuse and obfuscate the two central issues: drug-trafficking and money-laundering."

* * *

Salonga said the Senate should focus on these two issues, and leave out other issues, such as the Kuratong Baleleng rubout, the disappearance and murder of Bobby Dacer and Emmanuel Corbito, and the military records of Lacson and Corpus, since there are competent agencies best suited to tackle them. For instance, he pointed out that the Kuratong Baleleng case was elevated to the Supreme Court by the Office of the Solicitor General last Sept. 5, while the Dacer case ought to be left to the NBI and the Ombudsman. Salonga opined that if the allegation about Lacson's bank accounts are not substantiated with official documents, the Senate should discard the charge as useless. He said that the US Customs official's opinion assailing the credibility of Mary Ong is "mere opinion and hearsay"; what's more important is what the Senate thinks of her credibility. An even-handed, fair and impartial conduct of the Senate investigation will help clear the air and guide the Senate in the drafting of legislation to cope with the twin evils of drug-trafficking and money-laundering.

I fully agree with Salonga on the need to focus on drug-trafficking and money-laundering and put some order into the hearings. Let there be less of the grandstanding, too.

* * *

From Puerto Princesa City in Palawan, Raes S. Taganile, business officer of the Medical Mission Group Hospital and Health Services Cooperative, a medical cooperative providing health care at affordable cost to Palaweños, wrote a reaction to this column about the micro-finance program that the People's Credit and Finance Corp. (PCFC) has been conducting through various NGOs to help in the poverty-alleviation effort.

Cecile Alvarez and I featured executive director Joey Medina and the PCFC's lending program on her Radyo Balintataw show over dzRH a couple of weeks back, and I followed it up with a write-up in this space. The Medical Mission Group, which has just inaugurated a new 25-bed hospital that houses its laboratory, pharmacy, X-ray, OR/DR complex, would like some help from the PCFC for its own credit-lending operation for its employees and 180 coop members. Saying that the write-up has inspired the coop members, Taganile wrote, "We have always read in the newspapers about organizations that help co-operatives like ours finance projects, but that is the big trouble for country mice like us, who simply do not know anybody."

Don't worry, guys, this column will forward your request to Joey Medina.

Another farewell

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

THOSE were pretty powerful photos, the five brothers of Irish Columban missionary Fr. Rufus Halley coming to the Philippines to bury their brother, killed while trying to fight off alleged kidnappers.

Not everyone could understand why someone like Father Halley would leave his comfortable home and take up an assignment not only in a developing country like the Philippines, but in a corner of the country mired in poverty and, worse, deemed as dangerous and violent.

But Father Popong, as the locals learned to call him, managed not just to survive and pursue his mission, but also to serve as a "bridge" between the Christian and Muslim communities in Malabang.

What did his brothers feel, bidding Father Popong farewell and leaving him behind in a land to which he had given not just the best years of his life, but his life as well?

I have no way of knowing, but I can guess that saying farewell, and trusting the fate of their brother to the Lord's benevolence, is something the Halley men, as well as their parents, have become used to. I say this because for more than 20 years, my siblings and I (and our parents before us) have gone through much the same "training." When my brother Father Boboy chose to pursue his priestly vocation and became an SVD missionary, we knew that the primary focus of his energies, commitment and time would be his mission, rather than his family or even himself.

* * *

LET me tell you what we did the last weekend.

Two months ago, Father Boboy came down with a complex and alarming series of illnesses which turned out to be amoebiasis complicated by dengue fever. After confinement at St. Paul's Hospital in Tuguegarao, he flew down to Manila for confinement in Lourdes Hospital where he underwent a gall bladder operation. Even before he was cleared for travel, he was already chafing in the city, worried about his parish in Conner, Apayao.

While Father Boboy was still in the hospital, we planned to drive him all the way to Conner. We told ourselves it was to spare him the grueling 10-hour bus ride to Tuguegarao, or an expensive plane ride. But really, we were also driven by curiosity to see the place where our brother has lived and worked for nearly three years.

And that was what we did last weekend.

* * *

WITH FATHER Boboy, we mapped out a detailed, leisurely itinerary to break up what would otherwise have been a 14-hour journey by land.

Leaving Manila Friday evening, we arrived past midnight at the SVD Northern Philippines provincialate in San Fernando, La Union. The SVD priests put up eight of us—myself and the hubby, my sister Joni, brother Nono and his wife Soc, Father Boboy and our drivers—in their guest rooms. Some even joined us for breakfast—Fr. Gaudy Pugat, the father provincial, and Frs. Steve de Leon and Bong Garay.

We then proceeded to Vigan, Ilocos Sur, stopping for lunch and a bit of shopping, then on to Laoag, Ilocos Norte, with a side trip to Fort Ilocandia. Father Boboy was quite antsy to get us on our way, and we realized why as we passed through the winding highway from Ilocos Norte to Cagayan. In the dark, all we could glimpse were the dark outlines of trees and the pale road railings, but Father Boboy told us that if there had only been some light, we would have been treated to the exquisite scenery of green mountains to our right and the sea to our left.

We motored into Claveria, at the SVD District House, just in time for dinner, hosted by Fathers Bert Figueras and Noli Barona and their super-efficient staff.

Our aching bones and buttocks protesting, we reluctantly left our beds at four the next morning, with Father Boboy anxious to get to Conner in time for Sunday Mass at 11:30.

* * *

BUT first, we had to make time to visit the St. Paul sisters in Tuguegarao, particularly Sisters Mary Elena, Mary Angela and Nicole of St. Paul's University, who had looked after Father Boboy during his confinement.

Then it was on to Conner. All this while, we had driven through excellent roads, but upon leaving Tuguegarao's boundaries, we bounced through dirt roads until we arrived at the shores of the Apayao River, where we had to drive our Honda CRVs onto barges to get to the other side. Then it was about two more hours of driving through steadily rougher and steeper roads, until we reached the narrow, winding streets of Conner.

Though we were more than two hours late, we found Father Boboy's parishioners waiting for him inside the church, though lay leaders had already begun a prayer service. I kidded Father Boboy that he need not call out the town band to greet us, but I was a bit taken aback by the subdued welcome. When the Mass ended, the children flocked around Father Boboy, kissing his hand. And though they had already waited for quite some time, many parishioners lingered, exchanging small talk and jokes. I finally understood that the folks of Conner are not the showy sort, being sturdy and quiet in their ways and welcomes.

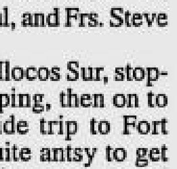
We had to leave soon after lunch, facing a long and tiring drive back to Manila. We left Father Boboy in his mission "home," but only after thanking his staff—Janet Cabbat, his parish secretary, and Sr. Margie Ancupa—as well as the Pastoral Council, for looking after him when he was ill.

There is a Filipino love song called "endless farewells," and it was this song that played over and over in my mind as we left our brother to his mission and to a way of life and faith that he had chosen and obviously loves. I think I know how Father Popong's brothers felt.

Where the violence comes from (2)

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper



FOLLOWING is the continuation of the appeal to the American people of Rabbi Michael Learner of San Francisco:

"Luckily most people don't act out in violent ways—they tend to act out more against themselves, drowning themselves in alcohol or drugs or personal despair. Others turn toward fundamentalist religions or ultra-nationalist extremism. Still others find themselves acting out against people that they love, acting angry or hurtful toward children or relationship partners.

"Most Americans will feel puzzled by any reference to this 'larger picture.'

"It seems baffling to imagine that somehow we are part of a world system which is slowly destroying the life support system of the planet, and quickly transferring the wealth of the world into our own pockets.

"We don't feel personally responsible when an American corporation runs a sweat shop in the Philippines or crushes efforts of workers to organize in Singapore. We don't see ourselves implicated when the United States refuses to consider the plight of Palestinian refugees or uses the excuse of fighting drugs to support repression in Colombia or other parts of Central America.

"We don't even see the symbolism when terrorists attack America's military center and our trade center—we talk of them as buildings, though others see them as centers of the forces that are causing the world so much pain.

"We have narrowed our own attention to 'getting through' or 'doing well' in our own personal lives, and who has time to focus on all the rest of this? Most of us are leading perfectly reasonable lives within the options that we have available to us—so why should others be angry at us, much less strike out against us? And the truth is, our anger is also understandable: the striking out by others in acts of terror against us is just as irrational as the world system that it seeks to confront.

"When people have learned to treat each other as means to our own ends, to not feel the pain of those who are suffering, we end up creating a world in which these kinds of terrible acts of violence become more common. And as we've learned from the current phase of the Israel-Palestinian struggle, responding to terror with more violence, rather than asking ourselves what we could do to change the conditions that generated it in the first place, will only ensure more violence in the future.

"This is a world out of touch with itself, filled with people who have forgotten how to recognize and respond to the sacred in each other because we are so used to looking at others from the standpoint of what they can do for us, how we can use them toward our own ends.

"We should pray for the victims and the families of those who have been hurt or murdered in these crazy acts. We should also pray that America does not return to 'business as usual,' but rather turns to a period of reflection, coming back into touch with our common humanity, asking ourselves how our institutions can best embody our highest values. We may need a global day of atonement and repentance dedicated to finding a way to turn the direction of our society at every level, a return to the notion that every human life is sacred, that 'the bottom line' should be the creation of a world of love and caring, and that the best way to prevent these kinds of acts is not to turn ourselves into a police state, but turn ourselves into a society in which social justice, love and compassion are so prevalent that violence becomes only a distant memory."

* * *

It seems only yesterday that we were watching the mob of poor and dispossessed Filipinos attack Malacañang with nothing more than stones and sticks egged on by a bunch of ruffians who saw their political power disappear and with it the opportunities for plunder. Here was no ideology or religious fanaticism in action unless we chose to view the love of money as such.

The real evil was the poverty brought on by greed, exploitation and opportunism. Yet in the months that followed we have watched in amazement as old familiar faces worm themselves back into Malacañang patronage. The astonishing phenomenon is that this is no more than a replay. We had seen this happen before in the months and years after the Edsa Revolution. Worse, we have seen so-called street parliamentarians evolve into nothing more than what they once denounced. Either they were motivated by nothing more than envy at the prospects of Marcosian luxury or as they aged and saw no material benefits in their idealism decided to seize the day. Why not? Who would want to go back to the poverty they once knew?

The problem is that in our small country there is no way to achieve vast wealth without inflicting vast poverty on the masses. No one would begrudge you a couple of mistresses and mansions to house them, the Jaguars and the Mercedeses, the dollars salted abroad if it didn't mean Filipinos living under bridges, children born and growing up malnourished and intellectually incapacitated. Forty percent of the population lives below the poverty line in the Philippines and is doomed to a miserable existence: drugs, child prostitution, incest, rape and death. While thousands died in those acts of violence in America in less than an hour, how many Filipinos will die in long drawn-out tragedies that are preventable if not for overweening greed and our incapacity to see the sacredness of others.

Back home

YOUNGBLOOD

Candy P. Caluya

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

WOULD my hometown of Laoag, 500 kilometers north of Metro Manila, offer me a more promising future than the big city itself where opportunities abound? Would succumbing to its lure guarantee me the happiness I have found to be so elusive? Does going back to the province after finding a niche in the corporate world make sense?

I have been a city dweller for more than a decade now. I thrived in its fast-paced, dizzying culture. I have memorized by heart its unwritten rules. I could have stayed in the city, forever sipping coffee, playing billiards, malling and doing what any regular resident does.

However, I found myself starting to consider seriously pursuing my law studies in the province after realizing that it was extremely difficult to balance work and studies in the city. I was not willing to give up either, so I had to think of the best option which would enable me to do both under better circumstances. Going home to the province seemed to be the best alternative.

The thought that I would not graduate as a Thomasian lawyer was not appealing at first. I had too much pride and I thought about what other people would think. To those who did not understand, going back to the province would make me look like a failure. Of course, I did not want to be branded a quitter. It was a tough decision, but I finally decided to move back to my native city.

My first days back in Laoag were something of a shock. My life slowed down to an unaccustomed pace. The sight of neighbors sweeping their frontyards greeted me in the morning instead of speeding jeepneys. The sun seemed to take its own sweet time shining. Everything was relaxed and peaceful.

Breakfast was served hot and fresh. I did not do any of the chores that took so much of my time in the place in Quezon City that I was renting.

Traffic was tolerable, except for occasional infractions of the rules by tricycle drivers. Transportation was not a problem. Commerce was alive and well. Almost all the banks had branches here, no doubt capitalizing on the Ilocanos' thriftiness. The city proper burst with activity, and there were all kinds of businesses around. Still Laoag hadn't lost its old rustic charm.

Entering Laoag through the Gilbert Bridge, a golden arch famous for its burgers and fries now welcomes visitors instead of the bell tower for which the city is known. A sign perhaps that tradition is slowly giving way to modernity? While there are still a number of *calesas* plying the city's thoroughfares, the time may come when they would be limited to picture-taking sessions with Taiwanese who visit the place.

Like any other choice, mine has its trade-offs. Now I have to tell everyone in the house where I am going in contrast to the total independence I enjoyed in the city. I cannot move as freely as I want to. Except for a big department store, there isn't any mall to speak of. The fast-food giants are here, but service is very different from the one in Metro Manila counterparts. The telecom leaders have taken notice of Laoag so there isn't much problem with texting and mobile communication. The telephone has become an ally and I have become the neighborhood Internet cafés most valued client. Life in law school here is another story, though.

So, what can one do in the province? A lot it turns out.

After about five months of staying here, I have ventured into my own food business. I have discovered my entrepreneurial skills and I am having second thoughts about working for anyone ever again. I keep a staff of five who challenge me every day to put into practice the theories that I taught in my consulting work. I have given up my corporate get-up for a more relaxed and casual wardrobe.

I drive around and fall in love all over again with my province's sights, cultural heritage and history. The beach is just a 15-minute drive away, and there I can watch the sun set in its striking glory. Walking barefoot on the fine sand is definitely calming and relaxing.

There is barely a night life here, except for the few who can afford five-star hotel rates. Nights are spent at friends' houses where an inexhaustible supply of Ilocos *chichacorn* fuel intimate conversations and nostalgia.

My circle of friends is limited to the number of fingers I have in one hand. They are friends from yesteryears who provide warmth and comfort, stripped of pretenses and put-ons. They have known me since childhood and they are the choicest of all.

Late afternoons are usually spent satisfying our craving for Ilocos *empanada* or the local *miki* topped with generous sprinkles of the sinful *bagnet*. Our family gets together weekly to feast on fresh catch from the sea and delight in the inviting crispness of our greens.

My high school alma mater never fails to invite me to judge various competitions: debate, literary-musical contest, Miss Girl Scout and the like. I spend Tuesday afternoons with the school paper staff, sharing with them my passion for writing. And instead of conducting supervisory programs for corporate leaders, I handle leadership sessions for the school's student leaders.

I still do part-time consulting work with the biggest retail store here and with the local franchisee of a drugstore chain. I have also volunteered my services to the local museum, which is touted as the best outside Metro Manila. I rub elbows with creative minds and committed individuals. There is so much to do and the people I work with, knowing that I have had a lot of exposure in big corporations, believe what I tell them. It gives me a sense of fulfillment I never experienced in my previous work engagements. It is a big change and a big shift, but I am not complaining.

In general, living in the province means fewer things to worry about, more interesting things to explore and a lot more time for introspection and self-discovery. It has brought me back to my roots and deepened my appreciation of the significance of things that are meaningful to me.

There is no rush-hour traffic to beat, no yuppies to compete with, no pollution to get rid of. I am beginning to feel more needed and appreciated.

I chose to go back to the province and found out that I am in the place I will always call home. Indeed, there is life outside of the big city. And what an interesting and fulfilling life it is.

Candy P. Caluya, 29, has her own pizza outlet aside from doing many other things.

THEY SAID

Troop support

"There's a higher possibility of the US offering us troops or logistics to finally finish off the Abu Sayyaf, than the Philippines being asked to send soldiers to Afghanistan to help the US hunt down Osama bin Laden."

—Surigao del Sur Rep. Prospero Pichay

Shared decision-making

"We do not believe we are divided. We just want a shared decision-making, a collective decision especially on matters affecting our people."

—Sulu Gov. Yusop Jikiri disputing comments that Moro National Liberation Front is divided

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Apologies meaningless to comfort women

AS the world focused on the recent tragedy in New York and Washington, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo came back from Japan and proudly declared her trip a success.

With regard to the comfort women issue, the President brought home the apology of Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi. As to compensation, the President said she was open to "innovative ways" that could make the life of the victims' as comfortable as possible.

Interestingly enough, another news item came out about a $352-million loan that the Japanese government approved during the state visit. The money will finance the construction of the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway project.

Now, Lila-Pilipina understands why President Macapagal went soft on her position with regard to the comfort women's demands. How could the President expect substantial results on the issue while the loan was on the agenda too?

The Koizumi apology was not the first. Since 1995, Japanese prime ministers have issued apologies and Lila-Pilipina got them without help from the government. The Asian Women's Fund gave aid to the survivors as atonement money and Lila-Pilipina got it without any government help.

These apologies are empty when not accompanied by compensation. The comfort women will accept no less than this because this legal act denotes that the war crime is finally being recognized and justice is being given.

Let us just hope that these elderly women still have long years ahead of them. Long enough for the government to stop serving the cause of comfort women with just a lot of words.—**RICHELDA EXTREMADURA, vice president and coordinator, Lila-Pilipinas Inc., 35 Scout Delgado St., Roxas District, Quezon City**

Making our planet safe

AFTER HAVING witnessed horrifying acts of madness, we ought to ask ourselves the question: Why are people perpetrating such terrible crimes. People who are happy, have a good job and are treated justly usually do not toy with the idea of engaging in suicidal attacks against thousands of innocent human beings, So, the question is: Why did they do it?

I don't know the answer. However, some situations of injustice and ongoing harassment could have led people to believe that the only way to change unjust situations is to fly some planes into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon or any other symbol of American power.

First of all is the condition of thousands of Palestinians, who for years now have been living in camps after they lost their homes and land. Thousands of young Palestinians have no future, no job and no hope. All they have is their body. With their body they make statements. Witness the recent suicide bombings in Israel. Others joined the network of Osama bin Laden and are ready to hit the power that props up Israel in its suppression of the Palestinians.

Second are the hardships suffered by the Iraqis on account of the economic embargo against the regime of Saddam Hussein. On several occasions, Pope John Paul II has drawn the attention of the Catholic faithful and of the world to the fact that this embargo causes untold suffering to innocent people. Again, it should not surprise us that young people are lining up to hit at the heart of Western power.

In addition we should ask ourselves why we have the Abu Sayyaf in Mindanao. I read in the book "Under the Crescent Moon: Rebellion in Mindanao" the following:

"No government official would admit to having taken part in the creation of the Abu Sayyaf. Without confirming or denying the allegations, a veteran intelligence agent says the Abu Sayyaf has served its purpose well. Looking back, he said, the group's creation wasn't such a bad idea. It helped in a way in pushing the government and the MNLF to the negotiating table. "It created an internal conflict within the MNLF because you must remember that at the time, the Abu Sayyaf was able to project itself as the more capable, the more determined group."

Of course still other elements have to be mentioned when it comes to the existence of the Abu Sayyaf, e.g. the way our Muslim sisters and brothers have been treated in the past. It is too bad that most probably this group has connections with Osama bin Laden.

Not only injustices but also religious fanaticism and cultural differences play a role.

Hence, a purely military approach will not solve the problem that has so many social, religious, cultural and political ramifications.

The question whether the elimination of Osama bin Laden will put a stop to terrorist attacks has to be answered in the negative. His network of terrorist cells is already active in so many countries, the Philippines included. Several hundreds of people were trained to undertake all sorts of terrorist actions. Even the CIA and the FBI will be unable to track them all down.

The elimination of injustices, openness and respect for other cultures and religions is of primary importance if we want to turn our planet into a safe place for all human beings. Christians should show the way in this endeavor.—**FR. ANDRE DE BLEEKER, CICM, Maryhill School of Theology, Quezon City**

Professional squatters posing as farmers

WE wish to draw attention to the activities of a syndicate operating in the provinces and victimizing landowners by placing alleged farmers in non-agricultural lands in order to fraudulently put these lands under agrarian reform coverage.

The syndicate conducts its operations in connivance with corrupt agrarian reform officials and other shady individuals claiming to be leaders of the Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Association (Arba) or the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) and their "affiliated" groups.

Arba and KMP are legitimate farmers organizations with genuine members but, lately, their ranks appear to have been infiltrated by the syndicate using fake beneficiaries to blackmail landowners into spending huge sums as "ransom" for their "hostaged" landholdings.

A case in point is a 42-hectare property in Davao City which was classified in an ordinance issued by the city government in 1982 and certified by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) as non-agricultural. Despite this, it was forcibly placed under agrarian reform coverage.

In 1991, field officials of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) in Davao City authorized the occupancy of the property by 74 alleged beneficiaries from Arba and KMP even if only three were verified to be actual occupants and the rest were "instant tenants" coming out of nowhere.

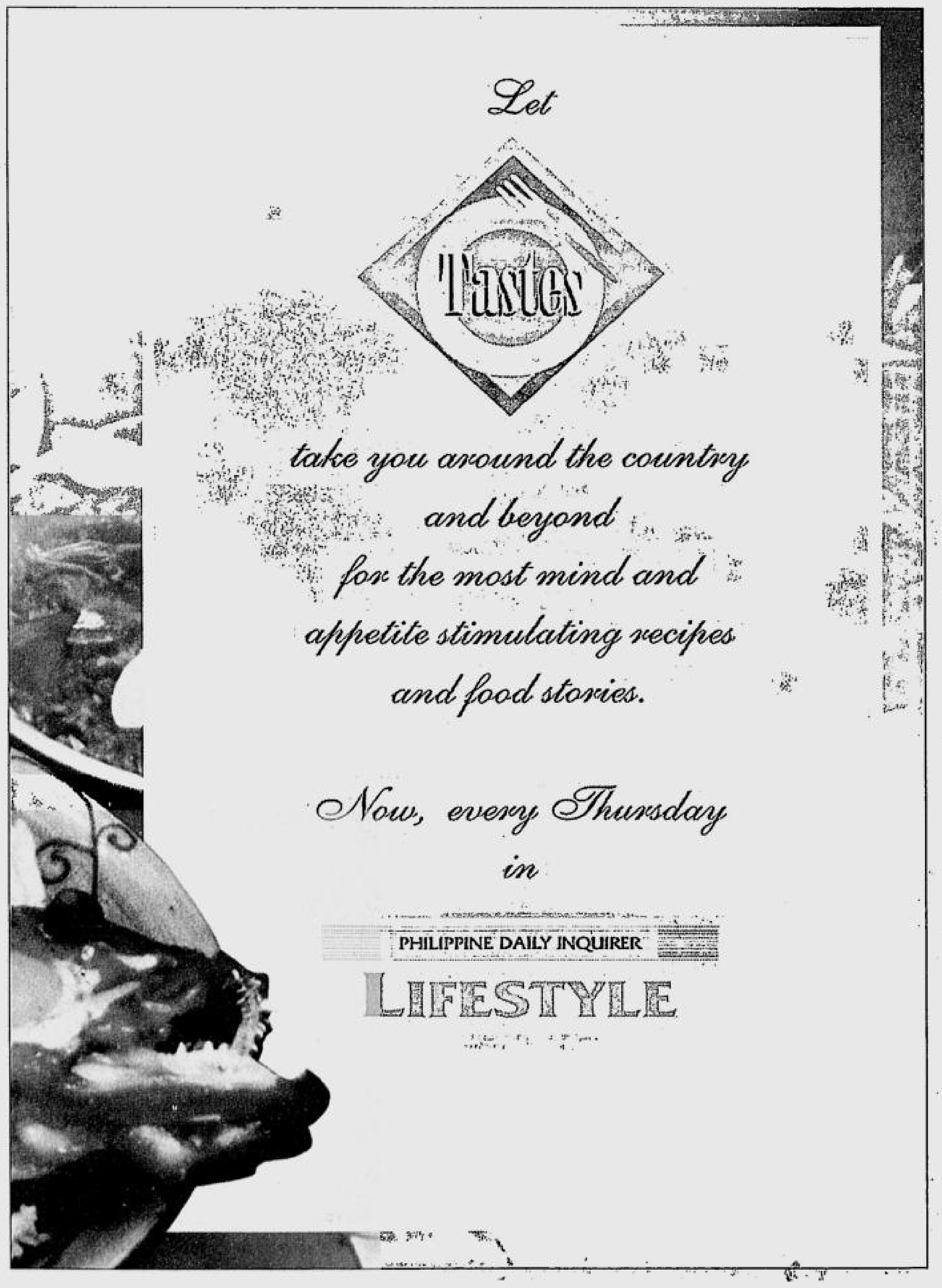
The alleged beneficiaries were issued certificates of landownership awards (CLOAs) but not even a year afterwards, they sold their "rights" to speculators, including three entrepreneurs, who now hold in their illegal possession 75 percent of the property.

The issue on the legality of the coverage was resolved by both the DAR regional and provincial adjudication boards in separate decisions in favor of the landowners but Arba, through counsel, appealed with the DAR adjudication board (Darab) in Quezon City where it now awaits decision.

We tried to obtain records of the case (numbered 8750 which are supposed to be public documents) from the Darab but, for some unknown reasons, we were told by the records custodian that these are confidential.

In this connection, we appeal to Agrarian Reform Secretary Hernani Braganza to instruct the Darab, of which he is chair, to be transparent in their deliberation and to look seriously into this case where the "farmers" could turn out to be professional squatters set loose by the syndicate.

This is not the first and only case of illegal agrarian reform coverage. The practice is rampant especially in Mindanao where the syndicate is based.—**ALBERTO G. MOLINA, secretary general, Association of Landowners Against Squatter (Alas), 46 Kamuning Road, Quezon City**


Let Tastes take you around the country and beyond for the most mind and appetite stimulating recipes and food stories.
Now, every Thursday in
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER LIFESTYLE

Limit on ownership barrier to foreign investments

SEN. Edgardo Angara is correct in proposing that instead of controversial political amendments, economic issues should be given high priority in case the 1987 Constitution is amended.

One of the economic amendments Angara and other legislators should insist on is lifting the prohibition on the 100-percent ownership of foreign investors. The Constitution only allows 60-40 sharing in favor of the local counterpart.

This particular provision could be the primary reason foreign investors are reluctant to come in. The framers of the Constitution must have been so focused on national sovereignty that they failed to see this is a hindrance to the country's economic growth.

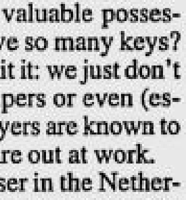
Ask government officials from the time of the Aquino administration, and they will tell you how hard they tried but failed to convince big businesses from the United States, Europe and other First World countries to do business in the Philippines.

Communist countries like China and Vietnam have accepted the fact that they cannot survive globally without opening trade with the United States, European and Asian countries. Why can't we?

Our legislators should wake up and move fast before we find our economy in the pits.—**JAMES S. YUIJICO, Reina Regente, Manila**

Keys

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

I'M perpetually at war with keys, and what's crazy is that it's everyone else's keys except my own.

I have to manage so many keys I have to carry them around on three separate *liyabero*.

A *liyabero*? When I show them to younger people, they go, "Ah, key chain." To which I sniff and say, "I beg your pardon, a *liyabero* is not a key chain." A key chain is something you buy at airports because it's the simplest (read cheapest) *pasalubong* for the 5,000 friends and non-friends waiting back home. A *liyabero* (or, in its original Spanish spelling, a *llavera*) well, it's something you don't buy at airports.

But I digress. I'll get back to the *liyabero* in a while but first let me explain my war with keys. Keys are bulky and heavy. I have a total of 16 keys on these three *liyabero*, and once when I put all of them in my pocket, together with the car keys, my pants nearly dropped from the weight. So I have to put the *liyabero* in my bags, which means I'm constantly fumbling around for the keys. As Murphy's law goes, the keys tend to hide when you need them most, such as when you're trying to get into the house on a moonless night, amid a raging typhoon that's cut off the electricity and, worst of all, a bladder crying for release.

Finding the clump of keys is only the beginning. You then have to figure out which key to use, and then try to get it to work. Note that 13 of the keys aren't my own, so they're often bad duplicates which have to be inserted at a certain angle while you hold your breath, wiggle your hips (partly because your bladder's now hysterical) and utter a special charm, all this while your loyal dogs and cats on the other side of the gate are announcing to the world—pant, pant, pant, yip, yip, yip (they're small dogs), miao, miao, miao—that it's three in the morning.

Each time I struggle with the keys, I realize how these infernal gizmos have turned us all into prisoners. There are keys for gates, for rooms, for drawers and closets. Then there are keys for safes which hold more keys to open up more doors, drawers, padlocks.

Do we need so many keys? Why do most of our doors have at least two locks? Look at the problems we create as we try to secure ourselves. There have been times when I've had to rush to my parents' home because my mother couldn't find her keys and couldn't get into her room. Because we have so many keys, we're always afraid of misplacing or losing them so we make duplicates, which just multiplies the number of keys around. Do a quick inventory of what you have at home and I'm sure you'll find that you don't know what half of the keys are for.

We're truly obsessed with locks and keys in the Philippines, even borrowing from three languages for our words for keys: *liyabe* from Spanish, key from English and *susi* from Chinese. As for locks, we use both the English word and the Spanish *candado*.

The *liyabero* reflects this obsession. These are elaborately crafted silver key holders from the 19th century and early 20th century, often with exquisite art nouveau designs. Older ones functioned as amulets as well—the key ring held by a closed fist with the thumb protruding, a design borrowed from the higa amulet to ward off evil. (I use one for UP.)

The *liyabero* weren't just key holders, they were also status symbols. The key holders' design, some with the owner's name etched in, told the world who you were. It also told people how many keys you had, and that you had all the keys because you had a lot of valuables to lock up.

I should point out, albeit defensively, that I don't have 16 keys because of wealth. My earthly possessions consist mainly of books and students' term papers, but I end up with so many keys because I have to manage keys for my parents and for the anthropology department at the university. (Fortunately, I don't have to carry keys for the NGO I work with, which has two offices, or for the INQUIRER.)

These days there are bank vaults for our most valuable possessions (my students' papers?) so why do we still have so many keys? I think we all know the reason but don't want to admit it: we just don't trust people around us. That includes domestic helpers or even (especially?) relatives living in the house. Some employers are known to even lock their maids out of the house while they are out at work.

Sjaak van der Geest, who was my doctoral adviser in the Netherlands, once gave me this piece of advice after we had visited his mother in a home for the aged: "As we age, we have to begin disposing of what we have so when it's time, we leave like we came into the world."

We come into the world without keys, without the *liyabero*, and we should leave without them. We start life with an abundance of assets: a sense of security that comes with love and trust. Ironically, as we go through life and accumulate more of the material, we seem to lose those assets and try to buy back security with locks and keys. I look forward to a time when I'll be passing on my *liyabero* not as key holders but as elegant curios from the past.

* * *

Maybe we won't need those keys after all, as Bush rushes the world into a new war. There's a petition going around the Internet addressed to Bush and other US government officials urging more restraint. Visit the website (http://home.uchicago.edu/~dhpicker/petition) and if you agree, sign it.

* * *

Comments to miguel@pinoykasi.net

Time for US to demonstrate greatness

I KNOW Americans will not like what I am going to say, but this must be said, even if mine is a tiny voice in the wilderness.

America and Americans can still be destined for greatness. Not through military might or economic power; but through a determined will to be faithful to Christ, the universal man of peace.

This is a new emerging global world and it is ready for America's spiritual and moral leadership which can begin now with a clear vision of her destiny. While the Sept. 11 tragedy was not willed by God but by men who succumbed to evil; God allowed it because America perhaps is being given the pristine privilege to set the tone and to actualize the will of God to make the Third Millennium an era of peace through greatness of heart! This is why the tragedy came during the first year of this millennium; perhaps so that America can lead all humankind to understand the ultimate meaning of life which is love.

Americans now have a massive spiritual capital to build upon: their inspiring and robust unity as a people—united in prayer and acknowledging that God is our only refuge and security for all peoples.

America is a Christian nation. So it should be true—and prove it. Jesus has shown the way. The vicar of Christ, Pope John Paul II (despite the attempt on his life) has shown the way. Can Americans follow in their footsteps? This calls for courage but most of all, faith—vibrant, solid faith in God and in themselves. Faith that they have been called to greatness—to witness to Christ's mission of salvation through love and forgiveness.

Yes, the terrorists responsible for that tragedy must be punished when rightly identified. But even they must be treated as persons; for all human beings have been created in the image of God; and as St. Paul says: we are not fighting against flesh and blood but against supernatural forces of evil.

We are all united with Americans in prayer, gripped also by anguish and suffering. They and we are the Mystical Body Crucified on the Cross of Christ today—but risen in the spirit—such as they are already gradually proving, by carrying on normally with each passing day. This is not only immanence but also transcendence. The Americans have such gifts—and they should actualize them and consent to be reborn! They should show the world what true greatness is.—**SUSAN JOSE, Gilmore Avenue, Quezon City**

PALESTINIAN President Yasser Arafat speaks during a meeting with the people in Rafah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip Sept. 23. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon canceled truce talks with the Palestinians on Sunday despite world pressure to cool a year-long conflict as Washington tries to build an anti-terror coalition. REUTERS

Israeli woman killed; truce talks in doubt

JERUSALEM—Hopes for truce talks between Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres suffered a blow Monday when Palestinian gunmen killed an Israeli woman, even as Europe increased peace efforts with a slew of high-level visits.

"No decision has been taken but it is difficult to imagine that the prime minister (Ariel Sharon) would give the green light in the present circumstances," said a senior Israeli official, who asked not to be named.

Sharon has demanded 48 hours of absolute calm before he will allow Peres to meet Arafat.

On Sunday, he canceled a scheduled meeting at the last minute following a Palestinian mortar attack on a Jewish settlement in the Gaza Strip.

The slaying of a 24-year-old Israeli woman in the West Bank's Jordan Valley early Monday shattered a fragile ceasefire declared last week by Arafat and Israel after Washington piled on pressure for peace as it prepares its response to the Sept. 11 terror attacks in the United States.

Israel has told Arafat to crack down on armed attacks carried out by Palestinian gunmen in areas he controls and to arrest the perpetrators.

Israeli officials said the probable perpetrators of Monday's attacks were members of the Tanzim, as Israel calls the armed wing of Arafat's Fatah movement. Israel also accused the Palestinian police of releasing a suspect being held for last week's killing of a Jewish settler near Bethlehem.

Sharon, a tough former general, promised late Sunday that the delayed Peres-Arafat meeting would go ahead, but only after Arafat stops the violence on the ground.

"Israel wants peace," he said, adding in a key announcement: "Israel wants to give the Palestinians that which nobody has previously offered them—not the Turks, nor the English, nor the Egyptians—the chance to build their own state."

He also reproached Arafat for "going back on his word by resorting to violence, contravening the Oslo accords" on Palestinian autonomy agreed in September 1993. *AFP*

US considers reviving assassination missions

WASHINGTON—In an earlier time, when the Cold War was hot, ,the US government tried everything from mob hits to lethal pills to get Fidel Castro. The Cuban leader once bragged of surviving dozens of plots, even one involving "a mask that produces a fungus."

In those times, the US government also shipped poison to the Congo intended for independence leader Patrice Lumumba and supplied pistols and carbines to dissidents who shot Dominican Republic dictator Rafael Trujillo, congressional investigators concluded.

The legacy of those and other abuses is a government ban on assassinations, first issued by President Gerald Ford a quarter-century ago and now being re-examined in light of the terrorist attacks that the government believes were engineered by Osama bin Laden.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, who was asked this week whether the order inhibits the government from targeting terrorists, said: "There is no question that ban does have effects. It restricts certain things that government can and cannot do."

In a CBS-New York Times poll after the attacks, 65 percent of Americans said federal policy should be changed "so the US government can assassinate people in foreign countries who commit terrorist acts."

At issue is one sentence of Executive Order 12333 of 1981, an update of Ford's 1976 order that was issued by President Ronald Reagan. It states: "No person employed by or acting on behalf of the United States government shall engage in, or conspire to engage in, assassination."

That sentence, seemingly straightforward, is subject to varying interpretations.

In the past 20 years, America has bombed Saddam Hussein's palaces in Iraq, struck at Moammar Gadhafi's tents in Libya and fired cruise missiles into a high-level meeting of Osama bin Laden's organization in Afghanistan that may have included him.

In each case, government officials said the assassination ban had not been violated.

In the case of Bin Laden, former President Bill Clinton told NBC television this week that he had "made it clear that we should take all necessary action to try to apprehend him and get him . . . Unfortunately, we missed him, apparently not by very long."

Furthermore, Clinton said the assassination ban doesn't apply to terrorists, only to heads of state.

Duane Clarridge, who worked in Reagan's CIA, recalled that when the Libyan bombing targets were drawn up in 1986, "there was certainly no discussion—or anyone making any smart or ad-lib remarks about hitting Gadhafi's command center—that we might get him." But Clarridge added: "Did we think that was a possibility? I'm sure that we all did." Instead, Gadhafi's infant daughter was killed.

There is ongoing debate about whether the assassination ban would preclude a government-sponsored hit on Bin Laden.

"I don't see that it crosses the threshold with respect to assassination," former CIA Director Robert Gates said in an interview. "I make a distinction between military operations and the CIA going out and targeting someone for assassination. In military operations people usually get killed."

White House spokesperson Ari Fleischer told reporters this week the assassination ban "does not limit America's ability to act in its self-defense." Defeating terrorists, he said, could require "acts which involve the lives of others." *AP*

Pope to faithful: Practice tolerance

ASTANA, Kazakstan—Pope John Paul II called on priests, monks and nuns in the Kazak capital Monday to rebuild the Catholic Church in post-Communist Central Asia and warned them against aggressive proselytizing in a land of many faiths.

The Pope delivered his homily at a Mass in Astana in Polish and German, the languages spoken by most of the clergy serving in the region—and the languages of Catholics exiled here in the Soviet era.

John Paul recalled the exiles' suffering, and the leadership of church martyrs who perished in the Stalin-era prison camps of Kazakstan. He expressed deep thanks to the clergy working to breathe new life into the Church, which was suppressed during 70 years of Soviet rule.

"Dear Brothers and Sisters! Remain ever faithful to the Lord of life. Together rebuild his living temple, which is the ecclesiastical community spread throughout this vast Eurasian region," he said.

John Paul appeared tired, and his hands trembled more than usual. He suffers from symptoms of Parkinson's disease.

Stressing the twin themes of the trip, his first to Central Asia, the Pope called for peaceful coexistence between different faiths and "the gentleness of dialogue." Kazakstan is divided roughly equally between Christians and Muslims.

To make his point, the Pope used the words of a Kazak scholar, Abai Kunanbai: "Precisely because we worship God fully and have faith in him, we have no right to claim that we must force others to believe in him and worship him."

In addition to the Muslims, John Paul's message was presumably aimed at the other dominant religion in Kazakstan, the Russian Orthodox. Orthodox leaders have objected to the Pope's travels in the region and rejected his desire to visit Russia, accusing the Church of aggressively recruiting believers from the Orthodox. *AP*

zed™
THE GOOD NEWS
Start your day with a gospel reading on your SMART Gold, SMART Buddy and Talk 'N Text cell phone. If you are using a **zed SIM card**, go to the **menu**, click on **TODAY** go to **WORD** then follow the instructions on your screen.
For keywords of other zed services, type **KEYS** and send to 288. ₱2.50 per reading.
WORD — Key in WORD.
288 — Send to 288.
ISAIAH 42:1-5 — You will receive your reading in a moment.
www.zed.com

We've added more flights to Taipei

Beginning October 28, Philippine Airlines gives you as many as 11 flights—7 days a week, mornings and evenings—from Manila to Taipei. Choose from 4 morning flights—taking off at 8:00 am every Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and arriving in Taipei at 10:00 am. Or, if you prefer an evening flight, our planes depart daily at 9:20 pm, and arrive in Taipei at 11:20 pm.

Enjoy the benefits of these flexible flight schedules, and be captivated by Taipei's unique fusion of old-world Asian charm and fast-paced modern lifestyles.

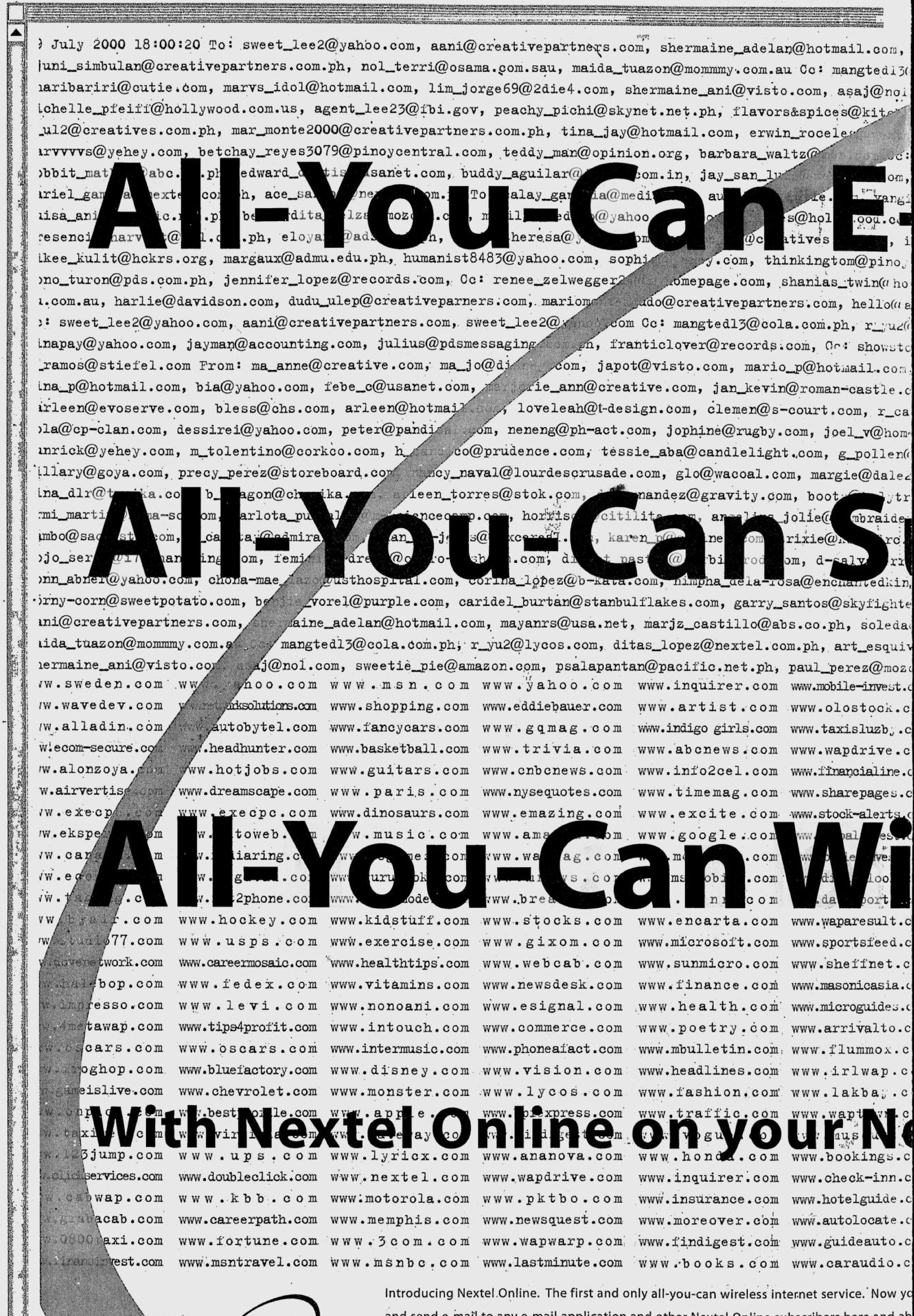
What's more, PAL gives you the chance to **double** your PALsmiles mileage credits on these flights, as well as on **all** our domestic and international flights, if you fly from now until November 30, 2001.

Get the most convenient flight arrangements and more! Only from Philippine Airlines.

Philippine Airlines
www.philippineair.com

Philippine Airlines PALsmiles

For bookings and inquiries, call PAL reservations at 855-8888 or your travel agent, visit the nearest PAL ticket office or our online booking at www.philippineair.com and get a chance to win a free holiday tour package for two.



) July 2000 18:00:20 To: sweet_lee2@yahoo.com, aani@creativepartners.com, shermaine_adelan@hotmail.com,
juni_simbulan@creativepartners.com.ph, nol_terri@osama.com.sau, maida_tuazon@mommmy.com.au Cc: mangted13
aribariri@cutie.com, marvs_idol@hotmail.com, lim_jorge69@2die4.com, shermaine_ani@visto.com, asaj@nol
chelle_pfeiff@hollywood.com.us, agent_lee23@fbi.gov, peachy_pichi@skynet.net.ph, flavors&spices@kit
ul2@creatives.com.ph, mar_monte2000@creativepartners.com.ph, tina_jay@hotmail.com, erwin_rocele
arvvvvs@yehey.com, betchay_reyes3079@pinoycentral.com, teddy_man@opinion.org, barbara_waltz@

All-You-Can E-

kee_kulit@hckrs.org, margaux@admu.edu.ph, humanist8483@yahoo.com, sophi .com, thinkingtom@pino
ono_turon@pds.com.ph, jennifer_lopez@records.com, Cc: renee_zelwegger omepage.com, shanias_twin@ho
.com.au, harlie@davidson.com, dudu_ulep@creativeparners.com, mariom do@creativepartners.com, hello@a
: sweet_lee2@yahoo.com, aani@creativepartners.com, sweet_lee2@ com Cc: mangted13@cola.com.ph, r_yu2
napay@yahoo.com, jayman@accounting.com, julius@pdsmessaging ph, franticlover@records.com, Cc: showst
ramos@stiefel.com From: ma_anne@creative.com, ma_jo@d com, japot@visto.com, mario_p@hotmail.com
na_p@hotmail.com, bia@yahoo.com, febe_c@usanet.com, rie_ann@creative.com, jan_kevin@roman-castle.c
rleen@evoserve.com, bless@chs.com, arleen@hotmail , loveleah@t-design.com, clemen@s-court.com, r_ca
la@cp-clan.com, dessirei@yahoo.com, peter@pandi om, neneng@ph-act.com, jophine@rugby.com, joel_v@hom
nrick@yehey.com, m_tolentino@corkco.com, h co@prudence.com, tessie_aba@candlelight.com, g_pollen
llary@goya.com, precy_perez@storeboard.com cy_naval@lourdescrusade.com, glo@wacoal.com, margie@dale

All-You-Can S

nn_abner@yahoo.com, chona-mae usthospital.com, corina_lopez@b-kata.com, nimpha_dela-rosa@enchantedkin
rny-corn@sweetpotato.com, b vorel@purple.com, caridel_burtan@stanbulflakes.com, garry_santos@skyfighte
ni@creativepartners.com, aine_adelan@hotmail.com, mayanrs@usa.net, marjz_castillo@abs.co.ph, soleda
ida_tuazon@mommmy.com. mangted13@cola.com.ph, r_yu2@lycos.com, ditas_lopez@nextel.com.ph, art_esquiv
ermaine_ani@visto.com j@nol.com, sweetie_pie@amazon.com, psalapantan@pacific.net.ph, paul_perez@moz
w.sweden.com www. hoo.com www.msn.com www.yahoo.com www.inquirer.com www.mobile-invest.c
w.wavedev.com www. solutions.com www.shopping.com www.eddiebauer.com www.artist.com www.olostock.c
w.alladin.com www.autobytel.com www.fancycars.com www.gqmag.com www.indigo girls.com www.taxisluzb
w.com-secure.co www.headhunter.com www.basketball.com www.trivia.com www.abcnews.com www.wapdrive.c
w.alonzoya. www.hotjobs.com www.guitars.com www.cnbcnews.com www.info2cel.com www.financialine.c
w.airvertis www.dreamscape.com www.paris.com www.nysequotes.com www.timemag.com www.sharepages.c
w.exe-cp www.execpc.com www.dinosaurs.com www.emazing.com www.excite.com www.stock-alerts.c

All-You-Can Wi

w. r.com www.hockey.com www.kidstuff.com www.stocks.com www.encarta.com www.waparesult.c
w. 77.com www.usps.com www.exercise.com www.gixom.com www.microsoft.com www.sportsfeed.c
w. twork.com www.careermosaic.com www.healthtips.com www.webcab.com www.sunmicro.com www.sheffnet.c
w. bop.com www.fedex.com www.vitamins.com www.newsdesk.com www.finance.com www.masonicasia.c
w. esso.com www.levi.com www.nonoani.com www.esignal.com www.health.com www.microguides.c
w. tawap.com www.tips4profit.com www.intouch.com www.commerce.com www.poetry.com www.arrivalto.c
w. cars.com www.oscars.com www.intermusic.com www.phoneafact.com www.mbulletin.com www.flummox.c
w. oghop.com www.bluefactory.com www.disney.com www.vision.com www.headlines.com www.irlwap.c
w. eislive.com www.chevrolet.com www.monster.com www.lycos.com www.fashion.com www.lakbay.c

With Nextel Online on your N

w.123jump.com www.ups.com www.lyricx.com www.ananova.com www.honda.com www.bookings.c
w. services.com www.doubleclick.com www.nextel.com www.wapdrive.com www.inquirer.com www.check-inn.c
w. wap.com www.kbb.com www.motorola.com www.pktbo.com www.insurance.com www.hotelguide.c
w. cab.com www.careerpath.com www.memphis.com www.newsquest.com www.moreover.com www.autolocate.c
w.0800 axi.com www.fortune.com www.3com.com www.wapwarp.com www.findigest.com www.guideauto.c
w. est.com www.msntravel.com www.msnbc.com www.lastminute.com www.books.com www.caraudio.c

NEXTEL online™
wireless internet services

Introducing Nextel Online. The first and only all-you-can wireless internet service. Now yo
and send e-mail to any e-mail application and other Nextel Online subscribers here and ab
latest updates on news, business, current events and lifestyle and surf all the wireless internet
For a low flat monthly fee, you can stay online anytime, anywhere even without a compute
subscription. So you never miss any opportunity. Get the online advantage. Only from Ne

*Introductory MSF valid for 6 months from date of subscription. Regular MSF applies thereafter.

MOTOROLA
1 Nextel Messaging
2 MyInfo
3 Nextel Online.ph
4 Nextel@Work
5 Favorites
6 Search
7 What's New
8 Enter Site
OK
InBox
menu
i50sx

-mail.

urf.

reless Internet.

extel handset.

u can receive
road. Get the
sites available.
and internet
xtel.

NEXTEL ONLINE	Regular Monthly Service Fee	Introductory Monthly Service Fee*	Wireless Data Services included	Free Minutes (Direct Connect)
Messaging	₱730	₱550	All-You-Can E-mail • MyInfo	65
Plus	₱870	₱650	All-You-Can E-mail • Nextel Online.ph • MyInfo	80
Premium	₱1,000	₱750	All-You-Can Wireless Internet • All-You-Can E-mail All-You-Can Surf • Nextel Online.ph • MyInfo	125

*Apply on or before November 30, 2001 to avail of introductory offer. Per DTI-NCR permit no. 3120 series of 2001.

Visit us at www.nextel.com.ph

Call 781-2345

NEXTEL
When you mean business.

Northern Luzon Bureau
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255
Fax No. (074) 443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

Southern Luzon Bureau
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No . (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

Visayas Bureau
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: pdivis@skyinet.net

Mindanao Bureau
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. Nos. (082) 244-1770 to 71
Fax no. (082) 2441771
E-mail: pdiminda@dv.weblinq.com

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern Luzon will experience rains and gusty winds becoming stormy over extreme Northern Luzon and the coastal waters will be rough to very rough. The Western sections of Luzon and Visayas will be cloudy with monsoon rains. The rest of the country will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Monsoon Rains	HI 29° Lo 24°
Baguio	Rains and Gusty Winds	HI 21° Lo 14°
Tuguegarao	Rains and Gusty Winds	HI 27° Lo 21°
Laoag	Rains and Gusty Winds	HI 27° Lo 26°
Clark Zone	Monsoon Rains	HI 28° Lo 23°
Tagaytay	Monsoon Rains	HI 27° Lo 21°
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	HI 31° Lo 27°
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	HI 31° Lo 25°
Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains	HI 30° Lo 26°
Roxas	Cloudy with Rains	HI 27° Lo 25°
Cebu	Cloudy with Rains	HI 30° Lo 24°
Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains	HI 34° Lo 26°
Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 26°
Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains	HI 33° Lo 26°
Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 24°
Davao	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/09/25/01

ROUNDUP

Fish kills probe on

MATI, Davao Oriental—The Regional Disaster Coordinating Council in Southern Mindanao formed a task force to investigate the fish kills in Maco, Compostela Valley. The decision was prompted by the result of an initial investigation made by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources pointing to the careless use of the pesticide Isazofos as the probable cause of the fish kills. The pesticide is widely used in the production of bananas, citrus, cotton, maize, rice vegetables and sugarcane.

Ferdinand Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Suspected bandits held

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Two suspected Abu Sayyaf members were arrested in Barangay Luyahan here on Friday night. Each of the suspects has a P150,000 prize on his head. Col. Romeo Abayan, deputy chief of the Marine Forces South, identified the suspects as Anni Sailani, 30, and his brother Itting, 27, both of Barangay Tubigan in Maluso, Basilan. The suspects were allegedly behind the abduction of Maria Theresa Agsaluna, a teacher at the Saluping Elementary School, on June 7, 1999. They were also allegedly among those who took hostage teachers and pupils in Barangay Tumahubong, Sumisip on March 20 last year.

Julie Alipala-Inot, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Davao Norte bags 12 awards

DAVAO CITY—Davao del Norte bagged 12 of the 38 awards given during the Civil Service Commission's regional search for excellence in public service. Gov. Rodolfo del Rosario and Dujali town Mayor Gregorio Facula, Mayor Rogelio Antalan of Island Garden City of Samal and education supervisor Jose Aquino, were cited for excellence in public service. Kapalong town Mayor Dominador Cruda Sr. was named outstanding personnel administrator while provincial board member Rogelio Israel, provincial agriculturist Anastacia Notarte and social welfare officer Abundia Lariosa of the Island Garden City of Samal were cited under the Ulirang Kawani category.

Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

League's new officers

LUCENA CITY—Sampaloc Vice Mayor Gladys Nantes was elected unopposed as president of the Quezon Vice Mayors' League. Nantes, sister-in-law of Rep. Rafael Nantes, vowed to work for and pursue projects and programs that would benefit the organization. Also elected were Vice Mayors Marlon Masaganda (Lopez), vice president; Rhoderick Alcala (Lucena City), secretary general; Augusto Veluz (Lucban), treasurer; Alicia Caringal (Perez), auditor; Leonchito Gapasangra (Mauban), business manager; and Fernandito Baronia (Mulanay), press relation officer.

Delfin Malari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Free books for poor

LEGAZPI CITY—The Department of Education will distribute P600,000 worth of free textbooks to elementary and high schools in Camarines Sur. The books are expected to ease the textbook-pupil ratio of 1:5 as reported earlier by Camarines Sur assistant schools division superintendent Emma Cornejo. Some P9.75 million worth of books were given out earlier. The free elementary textbooks include sciences, arts and teachers' manuals. Some of the books were donations from other institutions and publishing houses.

Rey Nasol, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Trader's son kidnapped

SORSOGON CITY—At least three heavily armed men robbed the house of a businessman here and abducted the victim's 14-year-old son on Monday. Police identified the victim as Arnel Gastardo of Barangay Cabid-an here. Gastardo's mother, Yolanda, told investigators that they were watching TV when the suspects, armed with .45 cal. pistols, forcibly entered their house, hog-tied her and the other members of the Gastardo family at gunpoint and took their valuables. Some P239,500 worth of jewelry and P100,000 in cash were reported missing after the break-in. Police found the young Gastardo in Pio Duran, some 200 kilometers from their residence, on Thursday.

Rey Nasol, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Group vs GMOs launched

LOS BAÑOS, Laguna—A broad alliance of militant groups launched at the University of the Philippines here last week said it will confront the growing menace of agrochemical transnational corporations, genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and globalization. In a statement, the Resistance and Solidarity Against Agrochemical TNCs (Resist Agrochem TNCs!), vowed to challenge the agrochemical TNCs and related food and/or agricultural industries on issues pertinent to pesticides, GMOs, food security and land rights.

PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

GMO crop ready for harvest

CAUAYAN CITY—The controversial Bt-corn (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) plants that were tested in sites in Isabela will be ready for harvest next month.

"In four to five weeks, we could harvest the corn plants unless strong typhoons would directly hit the trial sites," Dr. Arnold Estrada, Monsanto-Philippines product development manager, told the INQUIRER.

The three Bt-corn trial sites in the province are located in 1,700-square-meter lots in Barangay Villaluna here, in Barangay Alinguigan 2nd in Ilagan town and in Barangay Carulay in Echague town.

The agricultural firm Monsanto, the proponent of the project, proposed 11 field test areas in the province but the National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines (NCBP) initially approved only three sites.

Militant farmers' groups assailed Monsanto for planting the Bt-corn seeds without the Isabela provincial board's approval. Monsanto, however, said they have secured proper permits from the NCBP to conduct the field trials.

Estrada said the company is expecting at least yields 69 percent higher than average from Bt-corn compared to the commercial hybrid corn plants available to farmers.

"We expect that (higher yield). If there is no added benefit, there is no reason to continue this project," he said.

Monsanto officials asked visitors to the field trial sites to bear with the tight security check imposed by the NCBP and the Bureau of Plant Industry Quarantine Service.

Wary over the possible uprooting of the Bt-corn plants by militant groups opposing the project, Estrada said they have coordinated with local policemen and village watchmen to avert any violent activities in the field test areas.

Estrada dismissed reports that the Bt-corn is "poisonous" and "cancer-inducing."

Commercially released GMOs (genetically modified organisms), he said, have undergone thorough testing for toxicity, nutritional food and feed values.

"There were a lot of studies conducted about this. In the United States alone, three bodies—the US Department of Agriculture, the US Department of Environment and Protection, and the Food and Drugs Administration—have been regulating the project. They require us to submit data for the evaluation . . . and (the data) passed their criteria (requiring that the project possess) no adverse effects to the environment," he said.

Last week, at least 800 people joined a caravan in Barangay Carulay in Echague to protest the field testing activities.

Fr. Gregorio Uanan, Diocese of Ilagan chancellor, decried the lack of concern of Monsanto on the Bt-corn's supposed ill effects on public health and environment.

Estrada said any opposition to GMO-laced crops should be supported with scientific studies and should be given to the NCBP for consideration.

But Melchor Batalla, chair of the farmers' group Danggayan Dagiti Mannalon iti Isabela, said Monsanto, not the project's opponents, should prove that the crop is safe both to the public and the environment.

"*Sila ang dapat mag*-prove *kung mali kami dahil sila ang nagsasagawa ng* trial (They should be the ones to show proof that we are wrong because they are (the ones) conducting the trial)," Batalla said. ***Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

9 killed in 2 road accidents in North

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—Nine people were killed in separate road accidents in Kayapa, Nueva Vizcaya, and along the North Luzon Expressway on Friday and Monday.

In the upland town of Kayapa, seven people were killed when a Norton Bus fell into a 200-meter ravine in Barangay Castillo on Friday night.

The bus, which came from Baguio City, was reportedly carrying an undetermined number of Christian worshippers to a preaching mission in Kayapa when the accident happened.

Killed were bus driver Singo Ventura and Romy Colas, Wilfred Anapi, Ambot Iban, and Wilfred Ketano, all employees of Norton Trans.; one Fermin Adaes and a male passenger who was not immediately identified.

Reports said the driver lost control of the steering wheel as it traversed a steep section of the Nueva Vizcaya-Benguet road.

The number of injured passengers was not immediately known, but one survivor, Nestor Pinaw-an, suffered severe head injuries and was taken to the Veterans' Regional Hospital in Bayombong town.

In Bulacan, two persons were killed when their Manila-bound L-300 van was hit by a trailer truck along the North Luzon Expressway at Km 34 in Barangay Tabe in Guiguinto town.

Willy Santillan, 36, the van's driver, and a still unidentified companion, died while being taken to a hospital in the town, reports said.

Police said a tire of the trailer truck, driven by one Levy Calusor along the northbound lane of the expressway, burst, causing the truck to swerve to the southbound lane and hit the approaching van.

Calusor said he lost control of the wheel when he avoided a passenger jeep. He surrendered to the police and is now detained at the Guiguinto municipal jail. ***Melvin Gascon and Ben Moses Ebreo, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau, and Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

Nur not out to destabilize Gloria, says his spokesman

COTABATO CITY—A spokesperson of ARMM Gov. Nur Misuari has belied media reports that Misuari is allegedly out to destabilize the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Recent skirmishes involving members of the Moro National Liberation Front have been blamed on Misuari, who is also MNLF chair.

"These reports were baseless and could be a deliberate move to discredit the name of the MNLF founding leader," said Mahendra Madjilon, executive director of the ARMM's Bureau of Public Information.

Among the recent atrocities linked to the MNLF, Madjilon was particularly concerned about the Sept. 20 firefight in Marawi City that killed four MNLF members and wounded six civilians and three lawmen.

He said there was no truth to allegations made by Supt. Omar Ali of the ARMM police force that the MNLF members were stockpiling high-powered firearms in Marawi on orders of Misuari to sow terror in Lanao del Sur.

Madjilon said there was "no reason for Misuari to destabilize the government, especially in his own backyard, where he is the regional governor."

Marawi City and Basilan are the new members of the four-province regional autonomous region of Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi that Misuari governs.

"He (Misuari) still respects the peace agreement the MNLF had signed with the Philippine government despite its seeming insincerity to fully implement the historic accord," Madjilon said.

Misuari left for the Middle East to report to the Organization of Islamic Conference his alleged displeasure over the Macapagal administration's handling of the 1996 peace agreement between the Philippine government and the MNLF.

His trip was perceived by some presidential advisers as an act to abandon the peace accord.

Ali was quoted to have stated that the MNLF stockpile of guns and ammunition in Marawi could be part of a destabilization plot envisioned by Misuari against the Macapagal administration.

Ali's statement was based on testimony made by some captured MNLF fighters led by a certain Commander Mitomara Sidik.

According to Madjilon, it was not MNLF policy "to give orders, directly or indirectly, to small unit commanders of the MNLF. This has to pass through a chain of command."

He suspects that there are moves by some of the President's men to discredit Misuari here and abroad "so that they can carry out their hidden agenda."

Misuari's spokesperson noted that the Palace succeeded in dividing the MNLF and replace Misuari. The Palace also took away from Misuari the chairmanship of the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development.

President Macapagal, who was here Saturday as guest speaker of the 10th Mindanao Business Conference, endorsed Cotabato City Mayor Muslimin Sema of this city as the administration's choice to run against Misuari in the gubernatorial elections in November.

Cotabato City is not part of the ARMM.

Sema, a member of the MNLF executive council of 15 that sidelined Misuari, was Malacañang's new SPCPD chair.

"Although this city is not part of (the) ARMM, Sema is still qualified to join the gubernatorial race because Cotabato is a component city of Maguindanao," a retired Comelec official here said. ***Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

'Jericho March' launched to protect Kanlaon

BY CARLA P. GOMEZ
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—Protesters, led by the Church, launched a "Jericho March" yesterday to press for the repeal of a law that creates a zone on Mt. Kanlaon for geothermal exploration.

The marchers converged in Mailum, Bago and proceeded to the site of a proposed geothermal plant to pitch camp there for at least two days.

The protesters, led by Bacolod Bishop Vicente Navarra, demanded the repeal or amendment of Republic Act 9154 that sets aside 169 hectares on Mt. Kanlaon for a buffer zone that would be used for geothermal exploration by the Philippine National Oil Co. (PNOC).

"We want the buffer zone provision removed from the law to prevent PNOC encroachment into the park in the future," said Msgr. Victorino Rivas of the Diocese of Bacolod.

Mt. Kanlaon is a protected national park.

"We need to sustain our protests," he said.

Fr. Ireneo Godoncillo said lawyers tapped by Navarra for help are looking for ways of how the law creating the buffer zone may be amended, if not repealed.

He said the vehicles that joined the caravans to Mailum, Bago formed a line about a kilometer long.

The PNOC has promised not to tap geothermal power from the park following earlier protests, but the law creating the buffer zone remains a threat, the protesters said.

The firm said its failure to tap geothermal power from the protected area would shorten the life span of its power plant in Mailum town from 25 to 15 years. The plant would be finished in 2004.

Fr. Romeo Empestan, who joined the caravan, said if the law was not repealed, nothing can stop the PNOC from entering the park in the future.

Empestan said they called the protest "Jericho March" after a story in the Bible in which Israelites destroyed the walls of Jericho City, drove off its foreign invaders, and occupied it after marching around the area for seven days.

"In Negros, outsiders should not be allowed to destroy our national patrimony, which is needed for future generations," Empestan said.

The Church expressed fears that the PNOC's entry into the protected area would destroy centuries-old trees.

German detained for starting fire

DUMAGUETE CITY—Police arrested a German of Filipino descent after he admitted he set fire to the house he was renting Saturday in a cramped neighborhood in Barangay 8 here.

Catalino Malinovski, 76, turned himself in and was taken to a hospital after he suffered second degree burns.

The fire started by Malinovski destroyed three houses and caused damages to two others.

Victor Vibares, city fire chief, said the fire caused at least P500,000 in damages.

Malinovski told investigators he used a kerosene lamp to set afire the house he was renting which was owned by a certain Jocelyn Abestano.

Investigators said Malinovski could have been driven by jealousy to start the fire.

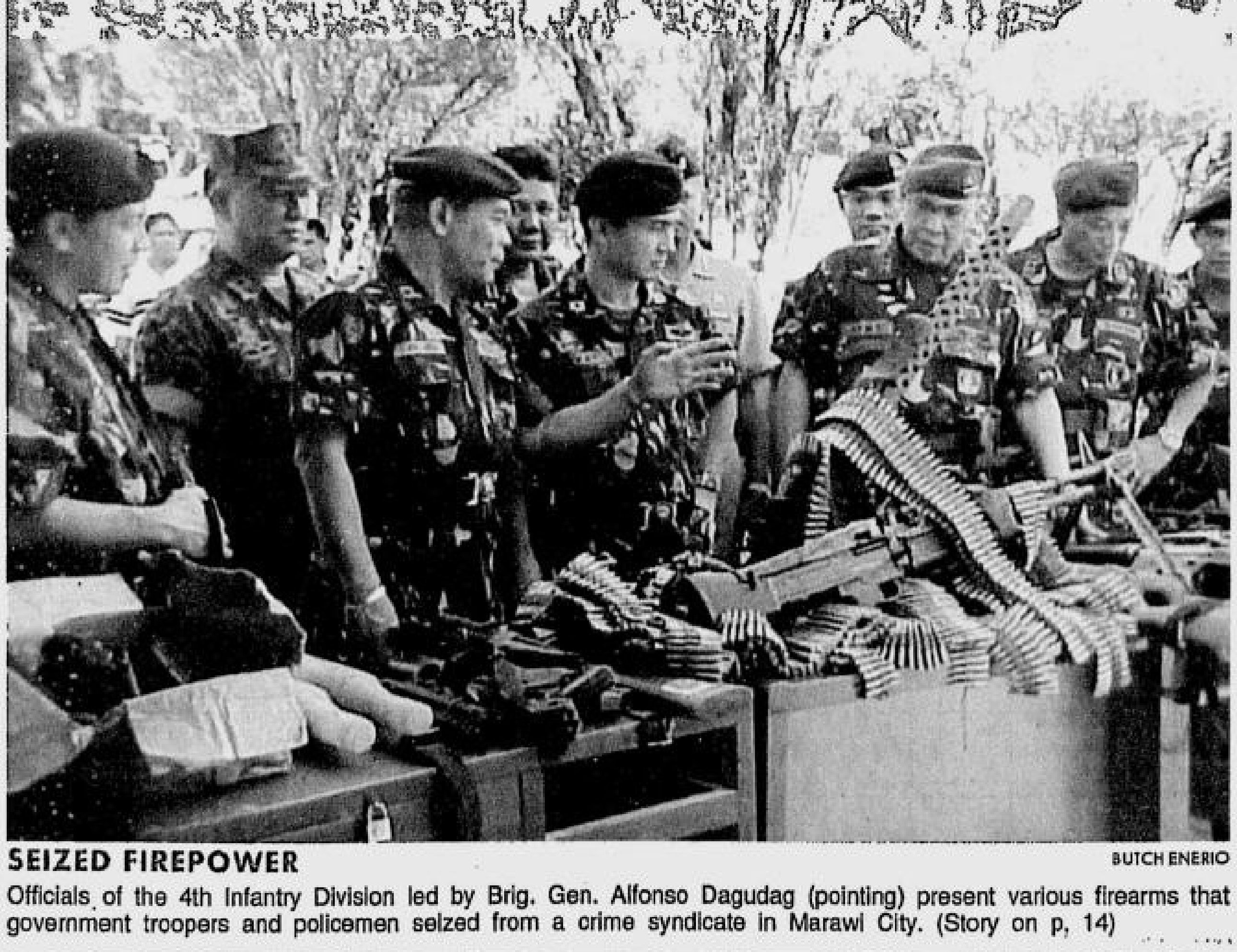
They said Malinovski apparently became jealous when a male visitor came to see a girl identified as Angeline Yso, 19, who was staying in the same house as Malinovski's.

Police said Malinovski was being investigated for an assault on Angeline shortly before the fire broke out early Saturday.

Angeline told police she felt a hard object hit the back of her head. Before she lost consciousness, Angeline said she saw Malinovski approach her from behind.

Witnesses said they saw Malinovski enter his room shortly before smoke came out of it.

Alex Pal, PDI Visayas Bureau



SEIZED FIREPOWER BUTCH ENERIO

Officials of the 4th Infantry Division led by Brig. Gen. Alfonso Dagudag (pointing) present various firearms that government troopers and policemen seized from a crime syndicate in Marawi City. (Story on p, 14)

'No-nuke' policy stands in US use of former bases

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—The Philippines is not waiving its ban on nuclear weapons even when the National Security Council has decided to let the United States use its former military bases in Clark in Pampanga and Subic in Zambales for its global campaign against terrorism.

The Philippine Constitution and the Visiting Forces Agreement, which both contain prohibitions on the storage, transport and use of nuclear weapons, "will remain in effect" when the US decides to use their former military bases as refueling stations and transshipment hubs for war materials.

Elmer Cato, acting executive director of the Presidential Commission on the VFA, made the statement in light of concerns raised by militant groups on the US' use of nuclear armaments in its anti-terrorism drive.

The Kilusan para sa Pambansang Demokrasya last week raised security and safety concerns, saying the US military used to store nuclear weapons in Clark and Subic. The KPD said it remains unclear whether these nuclear weapons were properly removed or retained for possible use in the event of a conflict in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan also urged the Macapagal administration not to allow the US to use weapons of mass destruction through the former bases.

Cato said the US government has followed the 1991 Bush Doctrine that required the removal of all tactical nuclear weapons like ballistic nuclear submarines, strategic bombers and land-based missile silos.

He admitted though that this was not based on inspection but on strong impositions by the Philippine government.

Under the Mutual Defense Treaty, both governments agree not to unilaterally board and inspect aircraft and vessels that are considered extension of sovereignty.

Cato said that since 1999 when the VFA took effect, only nuclear-powered aircraft and vessels were observed in Philippine territory.

He added the ban on weapons of mass destruction, as well as the prohibition on aerial photography, was imposed each time the US Embassy sought clearance for the entry of US planes.

Ecija 'salvagings' on the rise

CABANATUAN CITY—Unidentified armed men, whom policemen and residents suspect are members of vigilante groups, have already claimed through summary executions the lives of 27 victims in Nueva Ecija since July this year.

Police reports said the three latest victims were recorded only last week.

The victims, many of them residents of the city of Gapan, were suspected to be either involved in the illegal drug trade or had prevented illegal drug dealing operations in their areas.

The INQUIRER earlier reported 15 of these cases early this month. It included the discovery of the bodies of a woman and her daughter, the daughter's boyfriend and another man in Aliaga town.

The latest victims of summary executions in the province were three residents of Barangay San Nicolas in the city of Gapan who were abducted by a group of armed men last week. They were later found dead in nearby San Leonardo town.

Police identified the victims as Leo Roxas, Andy Yuzon and Liza Sarondo.

Another man, Emmanuel Valerio who was also abducted that same night by the group, survived the execution. He reported the incident to the police but could not identify any of the five men that abducted them and took them to San Leonardo.

A week earlier, two residents of Jaen town were gunned down four days apart of each other. They were identified as Peter Yabut and Artemio Manabat.

Two other persons in Jaen, identified as Erdie Paynor and one alias Pulot, were reported killed earlier in that town by unidentified gunmen.

Also gathered by the INQUIRER from police reports in the province were the executions of five people in Aliaga town in the last three months.

No suspects in those killings were identified.

Relatives of the victims, however, dismissed reports that those executed by the gunmen were involved in the illegal drug trade.

Police reports here also recorded the killing last Sept. 7 of a policeman and a former policeman, both from the city of Gapan, who were on their way home. Witnesses said the policemen were gunned down by masked men aboard a van.

Reports in the province said the group behind the killings could either be vigilante groups or death squads of rival illegal drug traders operating in Nueva Ecija.

Police said the gunmen involved in these incidents were using motorcycles or vans with heavy tinted glasses and without license plates.

A drug situation report released by the provincial police headquarters here indicated that 203 of the 849 barangays in Nueva Ecija are affected by the illegal drug problem.

A Philippine National Police report identified the city of Gapan as the transshipment point of illegal drugs being distributed in Nueva Ecija. In the report, however, Gapan was not among the areas recorded with the most number of drug-affected barangays.

Cabanatuan City and the towns of Talavera and General Tinio were identified as the areas with the most number of drug-affected barangays in the province. ***Anselmo Roque, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

Army, cops nab Marawi syndicate member

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—Police and military agents Saturday evening arrested a suspected member of the criminal syndicate that clashed with government forces in downtown Marawi City on Thursday.

Maj. Johnny Macanas, spokesperson of the 4th Infantry Division, identified the suspect as Alauya Tasandalan, an alleged member of a criminal syndicate allegedly led by a certain Mitomara Sidik.

Tasandalan was wounded in the right leg during the clash with government troopers.

With the help of his relatives, Tasandalan was able to escape during the raid on the syndicate's hideout in Marawi.

Macanas said police and military intelligence units, after learning about the escape, immediately secured a warrant of arrest issued by Judge Moslemen Macarambon of the 12th Judicial Branch of the Regional Trial Court in Lanao del Sur.

Authorities were able to trace Tasandalan at the Polymedic Hospital here, where he assumed the name of Boy Salamat.

Sidik's group is considered the most notorious criminal syndicate in Lanao del Sur. The group is allegedly engaged in illegal drugs, gunrunning and extortion.

The Marawi raid resulted in the killing of Sidik and four of his men. Thirty-five other suspected gang members were arrested. ***Butch Enerio, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Mindoro folk score bad road

CALAPAN CITY—At least four persons, including two Mangyans, drowned while trying to cross swollen rivers that made impassable several portions of the 33-kilometer Abra de Ilog-Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro national highway.

Residents said Occidental Mindoro's government is not doing anything to have the road repaired.

"How many more lives are we going to sacrifice for us to unite and take action?" said a three-page manifesto signed by the province's residents, business and civic leaders.

The residents called on the province's politicians to pressure the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) to dispatch a team on a "24-hour basis" to monitor the flood-prone road sections of Mamburao, Sta. Cruz, Paluan and Abra de Ilog towns.

Jay Ramirez, a staff member of Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato, said the congresswoman had already coordinated with the DPWH to repair the flooded and impassable portions of the highway.

"Their complaint has already reached Representative Sato and we are already coordinating with the DPWH to improve the condition of the highway," Ramirez said.

The manifesto signatories said a certain Virginia Chan Tan, 35, a businesswoman of San Jose, town drowned on Aug. 20 while trying to cross the flooded section of the national road in Sitio Talusungan, Barangay Balao, Abra de Ilog.

Two unidentified Mangyans also drowned in the same spot days later, according to Vice Mayor Leonardo Alcantara of Abra de Ilog.

Alcantara said the bodies of the Mangyans, who were seen being carried away by strong currents, were never recovered.

On Aug. 27, a certain Rizalina Pacheco Escobido, 20, died while giving birth to twins when she was stranded in Sitio Salagan, Barangay Casague, Sta. Cruz town where the road was made impassable by mud and flood.

The residents called on their leaders "to set aside (political) differences and work hand in hand in assuring public safety and convenience."

They also called on them to focus more on "developmental activities in an atmosphere of cooperation and coordination."

Ramirez added that Sato had already offered "peace and reconciliation" to her political adversaries. ***Joel Jabal, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Just scan it

Exercise your creativity in style with our special **HP-Nike Just Scan It promo.** Discover the power of scanning and let your imagination run wild!

How to join:
1. Purchase any of the following: ScanJet 5470, 5400, 5300, 4400, 4300, or 2200 from any hp outlet.
2. Ask for the Official Receipt (O.R.) from the outlet where the ScanJet was bought.
3. Each model has a corresponding Gift Certificate (GC) value:

HP ScanJet model	Nike Gift Certificate
ScanJet 5300, 5400, 5470	P 1,200.00
ScanJet 4300, 4400	P 800.00
ScanJet 2200	P 500.00

4. Customers may claim their Gift Certificate by presenting their Official Receipt to any of the participating Nike Park outlets listed below.
5. If the items to be purchased cost more than the value of the GC, cash may be added to complete the purchase.
6. Gift Certificate must be consumed in full on the same day it was first used.
7. Gift Certificate may be claimed within sixty days after the promo period.
8. Promo period is from August 18 - October 18, 2001 in Metro Manila only.
9. Gift Certificates are not convertible to cash.

ScanJet 4400 ScanJet 2200 ScanJet 5470

hp invent

www.hp.com

PARK

PARTICIPATING NIKE PARK OUTLETS: Filinvest Mall • SM South Mall • Glorietta 4 • SM Manila • Robinson's Manila • Robinsons Galleria • Sta. Lucia • SM Fairview

Per DTI-NCR Permit No 1275, Series of 2001.

HAPPY FAMILY AUTO LOAN

BPI FAMILY BANK

BPI Family Bank
takes you

from the
FUN OUTDOORS

to the
FINE INDOORS

with
Happy Family Auto Loan

Incredible
Indulgence

Avail of a
Happy Family Auto Loan
and you'll automatically be entitled to
an Overnight Stay and
Fine Dining for a family of 4
in a choice hotel.

Metro Manila clients also receive a
One-Year CARSAVERS
Membership -- FREE!

MANILA DIAMOND HOTEL · THE MARCO POLO DAVAO · WATERFRONT CEBU CITY HOTEL · DAYS HOTEL · LEGENDA

1. Just visit any BPI or BPI FAMILY BANK branch nationwide or the nearest participating auto dealer and avail of the Happy Family Auto Loan from **August 1 to October 31, 2001**.
2. To join the promo, approved minimum loan amount should be **₱400,000.00.**
3. All of these Prize Packages are inclusive of **FREE** overnight stay, dinner and breakfast for a family of four *(two adults and 2 children - 12 years old and below).*
4. Availment of the Incredible Indulgence Packages is until **December 31, 2001**. Unclaimed packages will be declared void after this date.

CALL	**845-6777, 754-6744**
VISIT	**www.bpidirect.com**
DROP BY	**Your nearest BPI and BPI Family Bank branch or any Express Banking Center.**

BPI Family Bank Provincial Business Centers:
Dagupan: (075) 522-0372/73, 523-4679 • San Fernando, Pampanga: (045) 961-4672 • Lipa: (043) 757-1000/02 • Cebu: (032) 254-0497 255-0271 • Iloilo: (033) 335-0230 • Bacolod: (034) 433-8033 Cagayan De Oro: (08822) 726-067 • Davao: (082) 224-0931/34

150 YEARS
BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

In cooperation with 105.1 CROSSOVER

See Flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2286 series of 2001

300,000 Afghans massing

(From page A1)

level US defense department team arrived Sunday in Pakistan to reportedly finalize plans for the United States to use Pakistani air space, intelligence-sharing and mailitary facilities in support for action against Afghanistan.

The team went to Islamabad reportedly to accelerate preparations for US military action against the Taliban and Bin Laden, who the militia claims has "gone missing."

The Americans, led by US Air Force Brig. Gen. Kevin Chilton, Pentagon director of strategic planning for the Near East and South Asia, arrived Sunday in Islamabad, US and Pakistani sources told the Associated Press.

A US Embassy spokesperson told the Agence France Presse that the Pentagon members "are here to do consulting and there is no time limit on it. When they have done what they have to do, they will leave."

Insisting that the Taliban would continue to make every effort to avoid a conflict, Obaidullah argued yesterday that the United States had no "lawful justification" for an attack on Afghan territory.

"A US attack will jeopardize the entire region," he warned.

Moving closer

US and British forces have been moving closer to launching anticipated search-and-destroy actions against Bin Laden, the alleged mastermind behind the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York and Washington.

The British newspaper The Sunday Times reported that British commandos were already in Afghanistan and had been involved in a minor clash with Taliban soldiers.

But the report was denied by the British defense ministry, as well as by the Northern Alliance, a grouping of Afghan opposition forces fighting the Taliban regime on the ground.

The United States, however, admitted Sunday that one of its sophisticated unmanned surveillance aircraft had been lost during a mission over Taliban-held northern Afghanistan. *(Story on this page.)*

Two US navy battle groups, each led by an aircraft carrier, were in the Gulf and the Indian Ocean, and more than 100 extra warplanes have been deployed to countries around Afghanistan.

Two more aircraft carriers were en route for the region: the USS Kitty Hawk and the USS Theodore Roosevelt.

Long-range B-52 and B-1 bombers have also been deployed along with A-10 Warthog ground-support attack jets, and US army special forces received orders last week to deploy to an unspecified location.

The military build-up has apparently emboldened the Northern Alliance, which has launched a series of major offensives against Taliban-held positions in recent days.

A Taliban spokesperson confirmed to the Afghan Islamic Press agency on Monday that opposition forces had captured Zaare district in Balkh province, giving them partial control of a key highway linking three northern provinces.

Unbelieving

The threat of US military strikes loomed ever larger after Washington's cursory dismissal of the Taliban's claims that "guest Osama" had "gone missing."

"Of course they know where he is," said US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld.

A Taliban spokesperson said Bin Laden could not be found when emissaries tried to inform him of a Taliban decision to endorse last week's recommendation by Islamic religious scholars that he leave the country voluntarily.

US Secretary of State Colin Powell said Sunday that Washington would soon present proof to the world that Bin Laden and his organization al-Qaida, or The Base, were behind the attacks.

"We're not going to be deterred by comments that he may be missing," said Condoleezza Rice, US President George W. Bush's national security adviser.

"We don't simply believe it," she said on a Sunday TV program.

The Taliban must either hand over Bin Laden and his lieutenants, and allow access to their alleged terrorist training camps in Afghanistan, or "face the wrath of an international coalition," Rice said.

EU delegation

As part of an international campaign to bolster the anti-terrorism coalition, a high-level European Union delegation was to arrive yesterday in Islamabad at the start of a week-long diplomatic tour through Islamic countries.

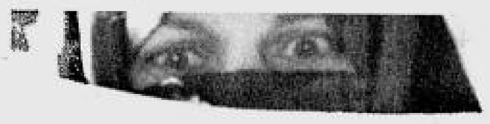
The delegation, which also will stop in Iran, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria and Jordan, is led by Foreign Minister Louis Michel of Belgium, which holds the EU presidency.

The delegation also includes EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana, EU External Relations Commissioner Chris Patten and Spanish Foreign Minister Josep Pique.

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, the three countries that formally recognized the Taliban government—Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates—have all distanced themselves. The UAE broke diplomatic relations with the Taliban on Saturday, and the Saudis were said to be discussing breaking with the Kabul government.

Despite anti-American sentiment in Pakistan, President Pervez Musharraf agreed last week to cooperate fully with Washington in its campaign against terrorism. *Reports from AFP and AP*

You can't see war on CNN



WASHINGTON—They are known as the quiet soldiers, slipping behind enemy lines with machine guns, rifles and anti-tank weapons.

The United States is likely to rely on the Special Forces to uproot terrorists, and that means a partly secret war.

Americans saw much of the Gulf War on television. They watched bombs strike Iraqi targets on video replayed so often it began to resemble a computer game.

The new fight against terrorists might not be as open.

"It may include dramatic strikes visible on TV and covert operations—secret even in success," US President George W. Bush said in his speech before a joint session of the US Congress last week.

Operations like those mounted by the Special Forces are played out in the shadows. It is not even clear that operations in which troops might be killed will be disclosed, at least right away, said Edward Turzanski, a national security analyst at LaSalle University.

"Where it's a broader use of force, you'll know about it," he said. "But when we're using Special Forces, there will be no indication that that's the case."

Added retired Army Brig. Gen. David Grange, a former member of the Special Forces: "We keep a low profile. On a lot of missions, you can't say anything. Some are tied to things still going on and you compromise people and jeopardize lives."

Some missions by the Special Forces during the Gulf War remain classified.

"One mission of our unit was to get Saddam Hussein to stop firing Scud missiles into Israel because we didn't want to drag Israel into the war," said Grange, a former Green Beret and veteran of the Army's counterterrorist unit.

"Our people went out to find Scud missile sites, calling in on radios and directing air strikes with beacons or giving exact coordinates to guide them in."

The fight against terrorists will require similar precision, analysts say.

The Special Forces might be called on to infiltrate Afghanistan by helicopter, launch a quick strike against a hideout of the Taliban religious militia or train resistance groups.

They also might pinpoint bombing targets. Using a handheld "laser target designator," a commando can put a laser spot on a vehicle or building. A laser-guided bomb launched from a plane, high above and miles afar, can home in on the laser spot.

Intelligence is essential to finding Osama bin Laden, who is believed to be behind the terrorist attacks.

"We have to know where they are," said Don Snow, political science professor at the University of Alabama. "Finding Bin Laden out in the Afghan countryside makes finding Saddam Hussein look like child's play."

L. Paul Bremer III, former ambassador-at-large for counterterrorism at the US state department, questioned whether special operations troops would have the sort of on-ground intelligence needed to crawl into a Bin Laden hideout and kill him.

When Muslim extremist groups kidnapped dozens of Westerners in Lebanon, including 17 Americans, and held them hostage for years, US intelligence had indications from time to time of where they were kept, Bremer said.

But before trying to free them, officials needed to know not only what block, but which building, which floor, which room, the number of guards in the room, whether the door opened in or out—even if the hinges were on the left or right.

An exit strategy also is essential, according to retired Army Special Forces Maj. Andy Messing, who spent much of his career in Central America.

REUTERS

FULL coverage of the aftermath of the suicide attacks on the United States is in the world press, including a Jordan newspaper that shows a graphic of Osama bin Laden and read by a woman with a traditional head veil.

Unlike suicide terrorists, members of the Special Forces are not inserted into hostile regions with a one-way ticket.

"You need people who can confront the ugly, bad, nasty people," Messing said. "That's the kind of person you have to have to guard at the gates of democracy." *AP*

Afghans fear Arab 'guests'

IN THE bleak Afghan capital of Kabul, Arabs drive the dusty, rocket-rutted streets hidden inside cars with blackened windows. Jittery residents cross the street and keep their eyes lowered when an Arab walks by.

The Americans aren't the only ones who would like to see suspected terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden and his thousands of militant Arab followers leave Afghanistan.

So would many Afghans.

Several Kabul residents—some of them Taliban officials—said the threat to Westerners isn't from Afghans or even Taliban troops. They said the real danger comes from the Arab "guests," as followers of Bin Laden's al-Qaida terrorist network are known.

Within the Taliban movement itself there is a growing split over the presence of Arab Islamic extremists in Afghanistan. The chasm is likely to widen if the United States launches punishing retaliatory strikes against Afghanistan to flush out Bin Laden.

One senior Taliban leader who wants his movement to break ties with the Arabs said anyone who makes public statements against them will be put in jail. He said the Arabs' influence is strong on the government, but not on the nation or on the Afghan people.

The official said his idea is to rebuild Afghanistan, but the idea of the Arabs is to destroy it and he believes the Afghan people will eventually rise up again them.

Many Afghans go out of their way to avoid contact with the Arabs, whom they consider hostile and overbearing.

One storekeeper on Kabul's Chicken Street said they worry when Arabs come into the shop.

Despite public resentment, the Arabs enjoy the support of Taliban leaders, in part because the Taliban need the militants to help fight opposition forces in the north.

After 23 years of civil conflict, many Afghans have grown weary of war. As a result, the Arabs have become the backbone of the Taliban fighting force. *AP*

US admits it lost spy plane

WASHINGTON—The United States authorities has finally confirmed that it has lost contact with an unmanned aircraft over Afghanistan though Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said Sunday that he had "no reason to believe" the plane was brought down by Taliban fighters.

Afghanistan's ruling Taliban claimed Saturday that its fighters shot down an unmanned reconnaissance plane in northern Afghanistan and were trying to determine what country launched it.

He gave the first confirmation of the loss of such an aircraft, used for years over Iraq and the Balkans for intelligence-gathering.

"The United States has, in fact, lost a . . . lost contact, I should say, with an unmanned aerial vehicle," Rumsfeld told reporters after appearing on a Sunday talk show.

"That happens from time to time in terms of the controls. We have no reason to believe it was shot down," he added.

The Taliban's official Bakhtar news agency said the aircraft was shot down over the Tashgurgan Pass in Samangan province, which borders Uzbekistan. At the time, Pentagon and CIA officials declined to comment on the report.

The United States acknowledged losing contact with two unmanned "Predator" spy planes during the past month over Iraq, which claimed to have shot both down. Washington did not acknowledge any hits by hostile fire.

Pinpointing the cause of the disappearance of such aircraft is difficult because the US often cannot reach the wreckage. The Predators are drones that are controlled from some distance away. *Reports from AP and AFP*

Palace: US not seeking turnover of arrested Abus

BY MARTIN P. MARFIL

CONTRARY to a report published in the Syrian weekly Almoharrer, the US government is not seeking the turnover of arrested members of the Abu Sayyaf.

The request of the US government, according to President Macapagal-Arroyo's spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao, is that US authorities be present during the interrogation of the suspected terrorists, and that "they be allowed to interrogate the terrorists themselves, in the presence of (Philippine National Police) officials."

The Almoharrer reported that the US Federal Bureau of Investigation had asked the Philippines and nine other nations to hand over hundreds of suspected terrorists.

But Tiglao said the fact that a Syrian paper had published the report made the report doubtful.

"I think this came from a Syrian newspaper, and Syria is one of the countries suspected of harboring terrorists," he said without elaborating.

The Philippines has declared full support for the US-led coalition's war against terrorism and has offered the use of Clark and Subic for refuelling and transshipment needs.

America turns to prayer

(From page A1)

ber of celebrities. But it was essentially a community affair, unlike the inter-religious service held Sept. 14 at Washington's National Cathedral.

Those who spoke were New Yorkers ranging from Roman Catholic Cardinal Edward Egan to the chaplains who minister daily to police and firefighters coping with the terror attacks.

"We Muslims, Americans, stand today with a heavy weight on our shoulders that those who would dare do such dastardly acts claim our faith," said Imam Izak-el M. Pasha, a Muslim police chaplain, enunciating a religious and patriotic theme that permeated the service.

The carefully balanced religious roster also included leaders of local Hindu and Sikh temples, black and white Protestant pastors, Armenian and Greek Orthodox archbishops, and male and female Jewish rabbis.

'We are not afraid'

Among the emotional high points was a sermon by the Rev. Calvin Butts from New York's historic Abyssinian Baptist Church.

"We are not afraid today," Butts said. "Get back on the airplanes. Get back to work. Rebuild America. We are not afraid today. Together we will get through it because we are the United States of America."

Priscilla Schoch, a Red Cross volunteer from Westminster, California, said: "Each piece of my heart came together as each person spoke."

In between the prayers and inspirational songs, there were patriotic sing-a-longs like "God Bless America" and "America the Beautiful."

"It was a beautiful service," Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said afterward.

He dismissed questions about possibly being disappointed at the size of the crowd. No attendance figure was provided, but the crowd only half-filled the Yankee Stadium.

The city had printed 55,000 tickets and made these available on a limited basis because organizers said they chiefly wanted the service to be attended by relatives of those killed or injured in the attacks on the World Trade Center, as well as rescue workers.

About an hour before the event began, the general public was invited to attend when it became apparent that there would be plenty of seats available.

'My hero'

Many wept when Bette Midler sang the line "Did you ever know that you're my hero?" from "Wind Beneath My Wings."

Most waved the American flags they received on the way into the stadium during Lee Greenwood's rousing "God Bless the USA" and chanted "USA! USA!" afterward.

Many also were hushed as they listened to opera singer Placido Domingo sing "Ave Maria."

"I got a feeling of how we all have the capacity to share, to love, to feel sympathy. I'm just hoping it will continue," said Betty Robinson, a 50-year-old paralegal. *AP*

US to cut Bin Laden money supply line

(From page A1)

US interests, is the prime suspect in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Rice said Bin Laden's group "will ultimately not be able to function if it cannot have access to money."

Investigators had said Bin Laden might have made a killing at the world's largest options market in Chicago by unloading shares of companies such as United Airlines and American Airlines before these plunged in the aftermath of the attacks.

A report commissioned by the US Congress estimated his wealth at $300 million. His investments allegedly include ostrich raising in Kenya, forestry interests in Turkey, diamond trading in Africa, camel breeding in Sudan and agricultural interests in Tajikistan. In addition to his investments, Bin Laden reportedly gets donations from wealthy Muslims.

'Obvious' evidence

The United States promised to come up with evidence making Bin Laden's guilt in the terrorist attacks "very obvious to the world."

Secretary of State Colin Powell said Sunday that the government would "put before the world, the American people, a persuasive case that . . . it is al-Qaida, led by Osama bin Laden, who has been responsible."

He said the administration was assembling a document that would lay out the evidence against him. "His guilt is going to be very obvious to the world," Powell said.

As the US military got ready to strike, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld suggested that brute force might not be the best way to get at Bin Laden.

"Is it likely that an aircraft carrier or a cruise missile is going to find a person?" Rumsfeld asked reporters. "No, it's not likely; that isn't how this is going to happen."

Rather, he said, "This is going to happen over a sustained period of time because of a broadly based effort where bank accounts are frozen, where pieces of intelligence are provided, and where countries decide that they want to change their politics."

Nonetheless, US forces around the world were being repositioned.

A defense department team arrived in Pakistan to discuss military cooperation in a possible strike against Bin Laden's network.

"What we've been doing is getting our capabilities . . . arranged around the world, so that when the president decides that he has a set of things done we will be in a position to carry those things out," Rumsfeld said on CBS television's "Face the Nation."

Powell detailed the diplomatic effort to assemble a worldwide campaign against Bin Laden's network.

He said the US decision Saturday to lift sanctions on India and Pakistan, imposed over the two nations' nuclear weapons programs, showed that "we will stand by our friends who stand by us." Both nations have offered cooperation with the US effort to get at the terrorists.

Asked whether the United States would expand its campaign to include military action against Iraq, Powell said Bush's "singular focus for the moment" was Bin Laden's network.

Infinite justice

In a reflection of the diplomatic sensitivities surrounding the US response, Rumsfeld said the name of the operation would be changed from Infinite Justice, which offended some Muslims.

He said the administration wanted a name that "in no way at all would raise any question on the part of any religion or any group of people."

Powell disputed suggestions that Saudi Arabia had denied the US military permission to launch attacks from a Saudi base.

"They have been very responsive to all the requests we have placed on them," Powell said on NBC television's "Meet the Press." "But I don't want to go into what we have not yet asked of them."

A Saudi official said Sunday that a Saudi base Washington chose as its command and control center for the US anti-terrorism offensive had been declared off limits for retaliatory flights.

Prince Sultan Air Base

The statement came as Saudi Arabia was seeking assurances the Prince Sultan Air Base, south of the Saudi capital, Riyadh, would not be used in hitting at Arab states.

However, the US state department called the Saudi military cooperation with Washington "excellent."

Last week, the commander of the US Central Command's air operations, Air Force Lt. Gen. Charles Wald, shifted his operations from South Carolina to the base, and the two sides were still negotiating over what the Saudi role would be in the campaign.

The Prince Sultan Air Base hosts 4,500 US military personnel and an undisclosed number of warplanes. The location of the base gives it the necessary security and privacy that Washington needs to direct strikes against suspected terrorists.

In addition, it would be ideal for heavy aircraft, such as B-52 bombers, which cannot be launched from aircraft carriers. It already accommodates F-15 and F-16 fighter jets engaged in daily patrols of a "no-fly" zone over southern Iraq.

If Washington and Riyadh fail to reach an agreement, the United States can turn to Bahrain, where the US Navy's 5th Fleet is based, or two Kuwaiti air bases that have been used by US aircraft since the 1991 Gulf War.

Diplomatic sources said the Saudis wanted to know in advance if the US retaliation would be aimed at some Arab states such as Sudan and Iraq.

On Thursday, a Saudi foreign ministry official said the kingdom would "not agree, under any conditions, to strike against brotherly states, like Syria, or groups that resist the Israeli occupation, like Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Hezbollah." All of those groups are on a US list of terrorist organizations.

Gulf ministers meet

Gulf foreign ministers holding an extraordinary meeting in the Saudi Red Sea port of Jeddah on Sunday also expressed a similar concern.

"Member states confirm today that they are willing to participate in any operation within a joint framework with specific targets and an internationally backed coalition to fight terrorism," a statement from the meeting said.

On Sunday, Yemen said it would allow US warships to refuel in the southern port of Aden, the site of last year's attack on the USS Cole that killed 17 US sailors.

A Yemeni foreign ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the joint Yemeni-American security improvements at the port in the months since the attack had made it safe for US ships.

A diplomat in Riyadh, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Saudis—concerned with Arab public reaction if the United States also targets Arab states—were pushing to have some influence over the targets of American retaliation in their negotiations with US officials.

Another diplomat, who also refused to be identified, said that during Saudi Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal's recent visit to Washington, he informed the Americans that the ideal way to eradicate terrorism was to force Israel to cease attacks against the Palestinians and to implement the peace accords.

The diplomat also said al-Faisal called on Washington to stop arming Israel. *AP*

Just who is terrorist? US foes, heroes to others

(From page A1)

"We're leaving open the possibilities and we're exploring," National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice said Sunday.

"But let me be very clear. We are not going to declare that there are good terrorists and bad terrorists. There's terrorism. And if you sponsor terrorism, you are hostile to the United States."

In the first few days after the Sept. 11 terror attacks in New York and Washington, Secretary of State Colin Powell and others seemed to suggest the United States would go after any group it considered as terrorist.

That could be more than two dozen, including groups like the Shining Path in Peru and the Basque separatist group ETA in Spain.

Bush careful

Bush was careful to stress in his speech last week that the fight would target terrorists with global reach, O'Hanlon noted.

The United States needs a strong coalition of nations, especially Arab ones, for a military campaign against Bin Laden's training camps in Afghanistan.

The United States needs these countries on which to base airplanes and stage troops.

Intelligence from Arab nations is also needed.

Yet a senior Saudi official, speaking from Riyadh, cautioned that any aid from Arab and smaller Persian Gulf states must be preceded by a clear and specific declaration of which countries and groups will be targeted.

The official said Saudi Arabia and the Gulf emirates would not agree to engage in a conflict those groups that resist Israel in its struggle with Palestinian groups.

He specifically cited the Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Hezbollah.

The Arab nations are worried that their citizens will become outraged if they helped America go after groups that resist Israel, said Anthony Cordesman, a Mideast specialist at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

Since the terror attacks, US officials have pressed both Israel and the Palestinians to contain the Mideast violence.

According to a Middle East expert who teaches at a US defense college, what may happen is that the United States will join with Egypt, for example, in going after a few Middle East terrorist groups.

But the United States may avoid a public linking with Egypt when it goes after a terrorist group with popular support inside Egypt.

Luring allies

The Bush administration also may single out certain terrorist groups in order to lure allies.

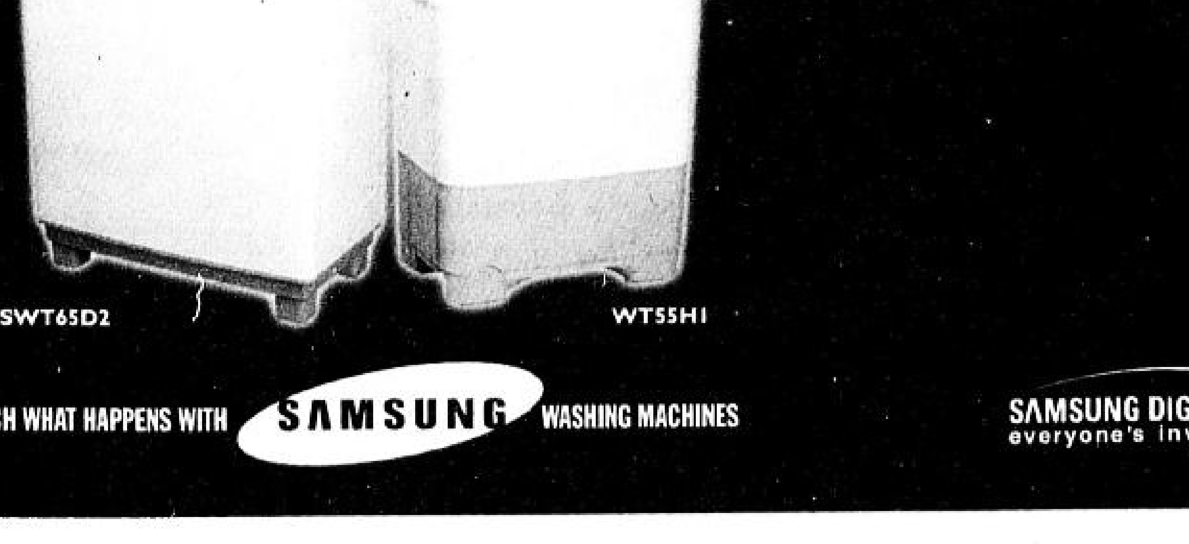
In his speech Thursday, for example, Bush named the Egyptian Islamic Jihad and the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, both of which threaten Egyptian and Uzbek leaders from whom the United States is seeking assistance.

US officials are seeking not just military and intelligence assistance but also diplomatic help in tracking terrorists' money.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld has acknowledged that the US campaign, no matter how sweeping, cannot stop terrorism altogether.

"We may not eliminate it completely from the face of the earth, which we surely will not," Rumsfeld said.

The goal, according to him, "is to go after this worldwide problem in a way that we can continue our way of life." *AP*



NOW SHOWING

The New SAMSUNG Twin Tub Washing Machines.
Ready For Viewing at your favorite dealer.

Performance to watch out for!

No More Heavy Drama!

Overflowing with Excitement!

See-Thru Window

Magic Filter

Shower Spinning Feature

If you're looking for ways to make your laundry job easier, you'll like the innovative features you'll see in the new SAMSUNG Washing Machines. Like a See-Thru Window that tells you in an instant when your spinning chore is done. A Magic Filter that ensures cleaner clothes by effectively capturing lint, residue and other particles and preventing them from sticking to clothes. And a Shower Spinning Feature that allows clean water to rinse out soapy residue during the spin cycle for faster and more efficient rinsing. So get a Samsung and see for yourself how much easier doing the laundry can be.

SWT65D2

WT55HI

WATCH WHAT HAPPENS WITH SAMSUNG WASHING MACHINES

SAMSUNG DIGITall
everyone's invited

FREE! See-Thru Umbrella

With every purchase of a SAMSUNG Washing Machine!
Promo good from September 25 to November 15, 2001

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3150, Series of 2001.

Rosales bags ₱500,000

JENNIFER Rosales ended a harrowing series of setbacks in the LPGA by placing 26th when she closed out with even-par 72 on Sunday (Monday in Manila) in the Asahi Ryokuken International Championship at the Mount Vintage course in Augusta, South Carolina. Rosales, posting a 213 aggregate for 54 holes, pocketed $10,091 (about P500,000) as the Filipino campaigner finally halted a string of nine consecutive missed cuts dating back to the McDonald's LPGA Championship last June. *J. Arcano*

SPORTS

Al S. Mendoza, Editor **Edwin M. Villanueva**, Assistant Editor

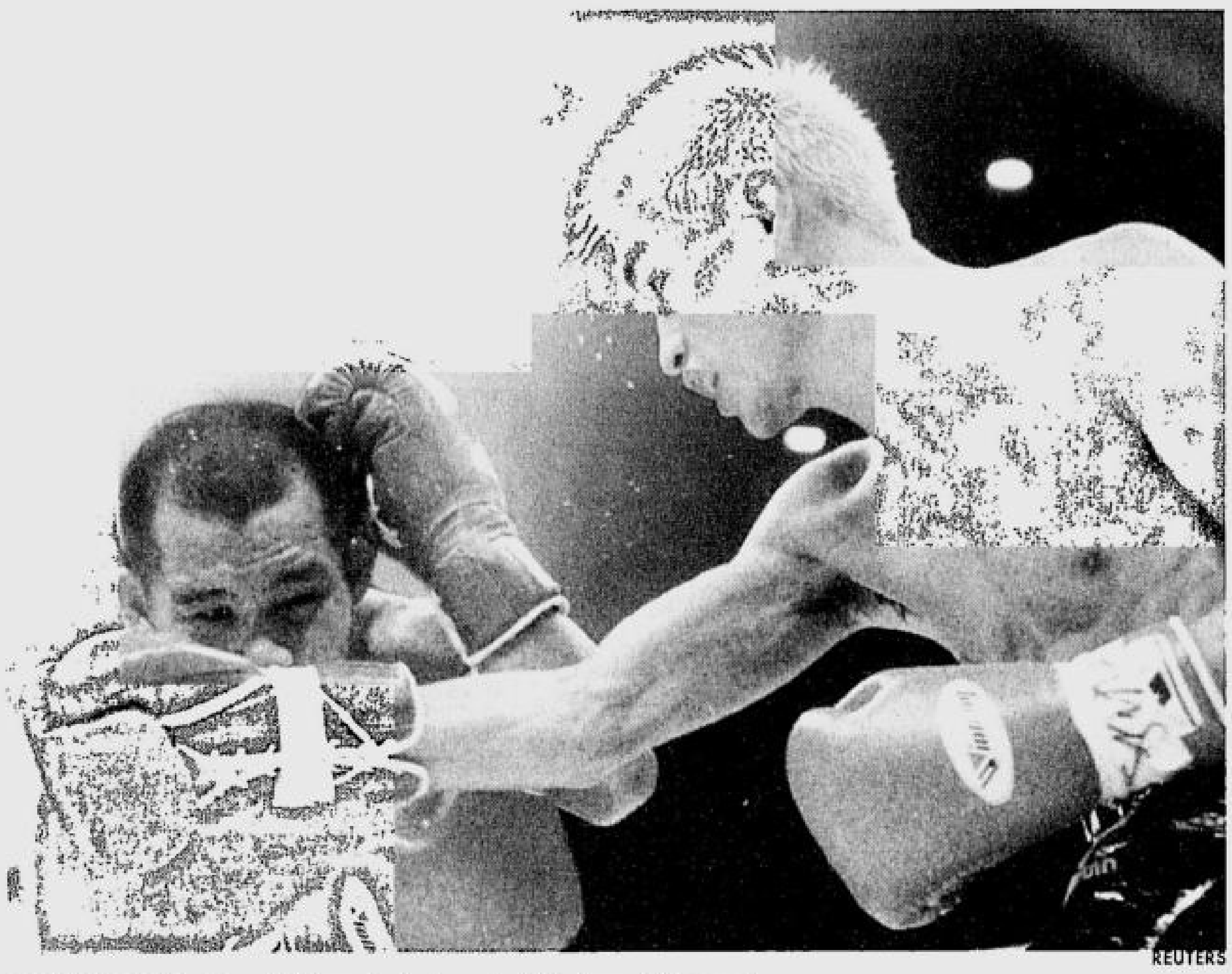
Bonds just 4 shy of McGwire

SAN DIEGO—Barry Bonds hit his 65th and 66th home runs Sunday, leaving him four shy of Mark McGwire's record with 12 games to play, as the San Francisco Giants beat the San Diego Padres 11-2. After the Padres kept Bonds in the yard the first two games of this series, the slugger quickly resumed his pursuit of McGwire's record of 70 in 1998. *AP*

GOT HEADBUTTED 6 TIMES

Gerry beaten on points by champ

By Al S. Mendoza
Sports Editor



REUTERS

TOKUYAMA lands a right on Peñalosa (left) in the sixth round.

TOKYO—Masamori Tokuyama virtually headbutted his way past Gerry Peñalosa last night to retain his World Boxing Council superflyweight crown here.

The 26-year-old Japan-born North Korean champion won in all the scorecards of judges John Keane (116-113), Chuck Hassett (115-113) and Chuck Williams (115-113).

But the unanimous decision verdict did not tell the real story behind one of the bloodiest fights in memory—bloody because of the numerous headbutts Peñalosa had received.

"I was headbutted at least six times," said Peñalosa in Taglish "I don't know why my opponent was not disqualified for that."

British referee Larry O'Connell did warn Tokuyama once for headbutting. That was all he did.

"No matter what my opinion is of the outcome of the fight, it will not matter anymore," said Rudy Salud, Peñalosa's manager. "In all my many undertakings in sports, my orientation has always been to accept the decision of the judges. It was their decision, and I respect that."

Tokuyama, defending his crown for the third time, will never deceive the 10,000 or so spectators of the North Korean's dirty ways at the state-of-the-art Yokohama Arena.

"The nation is sad at this very moment," said Sen. Ramon Revilla, seated at ringside beside Luis "Chavit" Singson. "Sad because our Gerry lost to a man who used an extra weapon to aid his fists—and that was his head."

How true.

Tokuyama fought a calculated fight, but the headbutts he inflicted negated whatever positive points he had earned in the bout, his 31st.

Both fighters were evenly matched until Peñalosa suffered his first cut in the fifth—a wound in his right eyelid.

Peñalosa tried his best to shake off the effects of the cut, concentrating deeply on winning this 45th fight of his since he turned professional in 1989.

But after he suffered another cut in the right eyebrow in the seventh due to another headbutt, that completely changed the complexion of the bout—and his outlook.

Bloodied but unbowed, Peñalosa began to box aggressively starting in the eighth.

But Tokuyama danced away each time danger stared him in the face. The crowd did not support his tactic all the way, rarely erupting to cheer him.

Peñalosa, his vision starting to be blurred by the continuous flow of blood, always found the Korean too slippery to hit.

Tokuyama would throw a punch and then quickly clinch or dance away, if not sneak in a headbutt, just as quickly. One such headbutt also injured the tip of Peñalosa's right eyebrow.

By the ninth round, Peñalosa's face became a gruesome sight as blood oozed freely from his wounds, especially after he got another headbutt on his pate.

That pate wound appeared too bizarre: it was L-shaped and measured almost three inches.

"From that time on, *hindi ko na siya talaga makita*," said Peñalosa. "*Para na siyang anino sa akin, kundi man tuldok na sumasayaw.*"

A doctor followed Peñalosa to the lockers. After checking his wounds, he ordered that Peñalosa's gaping pate-wound be sewed. It needed at least 8 stitches to close it.

He was the same doctor who examined the wounds in the 12th, an act that sent shivers down the spine of Peñalosa's handful of Filipino supporters.

When he waved the green light for the fight to continue, Peñalosa gave all he had. Unfortunately, he was like a blind fisherman casting his net in a fishless bay.

One of the three judges, who spoke on condition of anonimity, said referee O'Connell mishandled the fight.

"He should have warned Tokuyama early in the fight on headbutting," he said. "Easily, Tokuyama could have been assessed a minimum of a 3-point deduction."

Both Williams, from Hawaii, and Hassett, from California, gave Peñalosa the last two rounds. Keane saw Penalosa the winner in the 11th, giving a draw verdict in the 12th when in fact Penalosa had clearly won the final round.

All three judges saw the fight even after four rounds. When Peñalosa suffered the cut in the fifth, their decision-making took a dramatic twist as to favor Tokuyama from the fifth to eighth.

Revilla noted that had deductions been slapped Tokuyama, the fight could have swung in Peñalosa's favor.

"Tokuyama's winning points were very small so that if there had been deductions, Peñalosa might have emerged the winner," the grim-faced senator said.

To his credit, Peñalosa displayed dignity. But hard as he tried to deliver that one punch to send Tokuyama to dreamland in the last three rounds, he fell short of his mission.

"I couldn't see him *at pati sarili kong dugong umaagos, nalasahan ko na nang bandang huli*," he said. "But I knew I still beat him in the last two rounds."

In the eyes of both Hassett and Williams, Peñalosa won 10, 11 and 12. Keane had Peñalosa the winner in Round 9 and 11 while giving Tokuyama No. 10 and drawing Round 10.

Peñalosa took his fate gallantly. He said he would never be bitter in accepting his fourth defeat in his 45th fight.

"I did everything, but my best was not enough. I'm sorry that I failed my countrymen," said Peñalosa, who failed in his second attempt to reclaim the crown he held for almost two years after winning it in 1997, also here.

Jazz man

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

TOKYO—Angelico T. Salud is the eldest of three sons of Rudy Salud. Not yet 40, Angelico, nicknamed Chito, is a lawyer like his father; Chito was once the president of the Ateneo Student Council.

Chito is truly his father's son. Intelligent but at the same time cowboy to the bones. But that's going ahead of the story.

Rudy, who authored the constitution and by-laws of the Philippine Basketball Association before becoming the PBA commissioner not long after the league's founding in 1975, has been a respected member of the Philippine sports community for decades now. Before his PBA stint, he was a pillar in the creation of the Philippine Racing Commission in tandem with Danding Cojuangco.

But there was one job he would always remember with fondness. Just a mere mention of it would trigger a moistening of his eyes.

"Oh, that," Rudy would say. "That was really something."

"That" referred to the time when he helped form the World Boxing Council (WBC). As the WBC's founding secretary-general, Rudy wrote the council's constitution and by-laws. That historic act has been memorialized through a slab of stone built in front of the Madison Square Garden in New York City. Below the marker which contains the WBC charter's salient points is the name, "Rodrigo L. Salud, secretary general." As we all know, the Madison Square Garden was then—still is, according to Hermie Rivera—the mecca of world boxing.

The WBC today is the world's premiere boxing organization. Asian boxing powers like Japan, Thailand and South Korea consider only a WBC champion as the real champion of the world.

"Of course, I feel proud about that," said Rudy, who was barely 23 years old when he authored the WBC charter in 1961. "But I feel much prouder when I think that a Filipino has contributed to the success of such a world boxing organization like the WBC."

Rudy actually had long "retired" from boxing until he got a call from Gerry Peñalosa. This was in 1998. Gerry wanted him to be his new manager.

He initially declined. But upon Gerry's pleading, Rudy relented. Besides, although he had left boxing's paper work, Rudy remained a boxing buff. He also felt Gerry had still good years left in him as a boxer. But there was one condition: Chito would become Gerry's business manager. Thus began Chito's romance with boxing.

But Chito did not let Gerry's career totally control his life. Rudy also made sure that would not happen. So, Chito moved on with his "regular" life, soon becoming one of the country's best trial lawyers. Then he was appointed president/CEO of the National Home Mortgage and Financing Corporation.

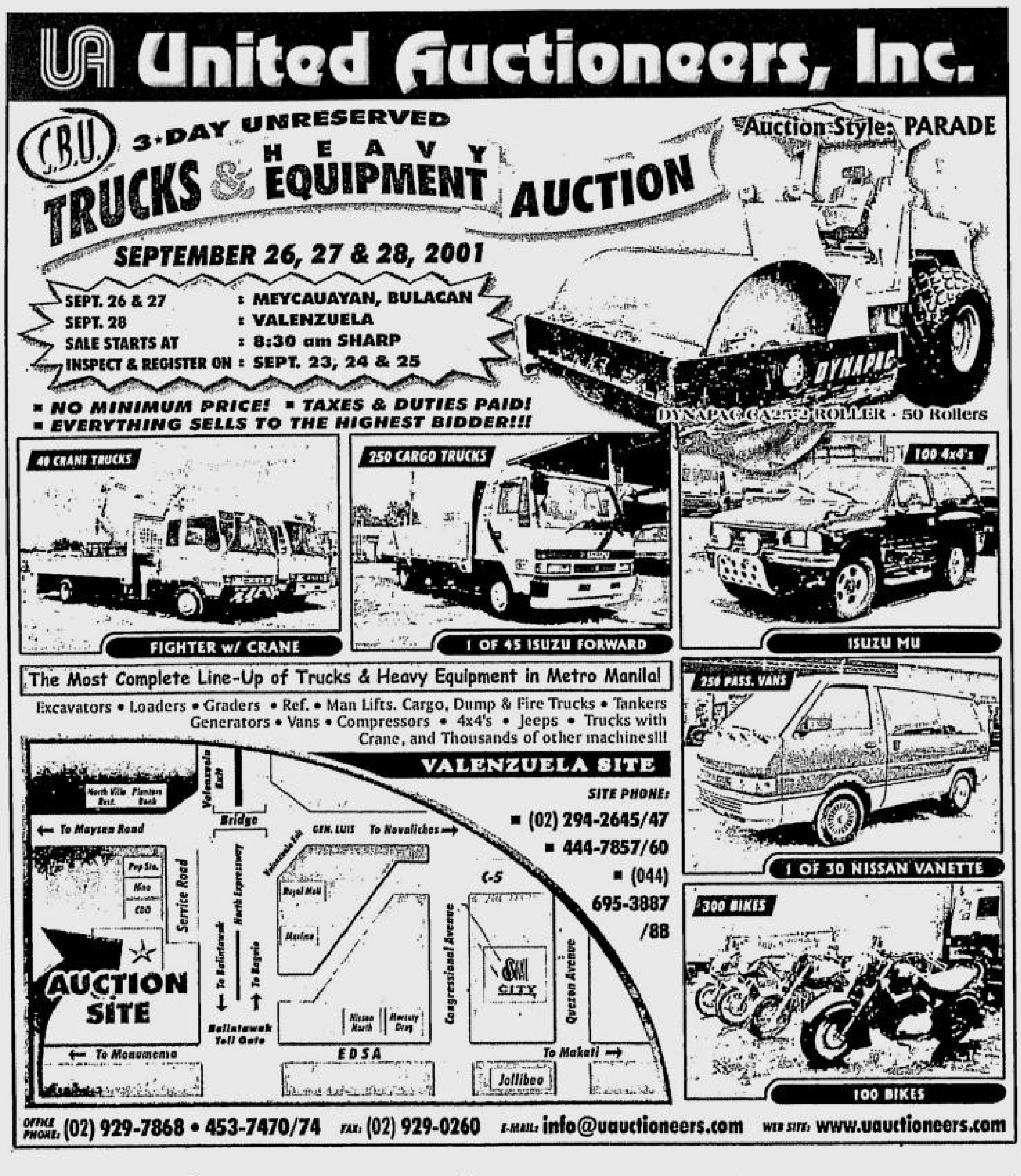
"I'll be one year on that job next month," Chito is telling me now. "One time, you pay me a visit at my office naman, *Tito*."

Have you got sounds in your office?

"When we get back, I'll start attending to that project," says he.

Chito, I would discover it here, is a jazz man. He says his chief hobby is lap up on jazz CDs and goes to buy a CD or two if he doesn't have a lunch date back in Manila. Tower Records is his favorite hunting ground. He's been to Tower Records shops around the world; his favorite, he says, is the one in Paris.

"You are truly right, *Tito*," he says to me during a break at the Akihabara, the electronics capital of the world. "Billy Holiday is the best jazz singer of them all."



United Auctioneers, Inc.

C.B.U. 3-DAY UNRESERVED TRUCKS & HEAVY EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Auction Style: PARADE

SEPTEMBER 26, 27 & 28, 2001

SEPT. 26 & 27 : MEYCAUAYAN, BULACAN
SEPT. 28 : VALENZUELA
SALE STARTS AT : 8:30 am SHARP
INSPECT & REGISTER ON : SEPT. 23, 24 & 25

- NO MINIMUM PRICE!
- TAXES & DUTIES PAID!
- EVERYTHING SELLS TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER!!!

DYNAPAC CA252 ROLLER · 50 Rollers

40 CRANE TRUCKS — FIGHTER w/ CRANE

250 CARGO TRUCKS — 1 OF 45 ISUZU FORWARD

100 4x4's — ISUZU MU

250 PASS. VANS — 1 OF 30 NISSAN VANETTE

300 BIKES — 100 BIKES

The Most Complete Line-Up of Trucks & Heavy Equipment in Metro Manila!

Excavators • Loaders • Graders • Ref. • Man Lifts. Cargo, Dump & Fire Trucks • Tankers Generators • Vans • Compressors • 4x4's • Jeeps • Trucks with Crane, and Thousands of other machines!!!

VALENZUELA SITE

SITE PHONE:
(02) 294-2645/47
444-7857/60
(044) 695-3887 /88

OFFICE PHONE: (02) 929-7868 • 453-7470/74 FAX: (02) 929-0260 E-MAIL: info@uauctioneers.com WEB SITE: www.uauctioneers.com

Llamas wins ₱1M for Rotary ace

NONOY Llamas won local golf's biggest hole-in-one cash jackpot when he aced No. 2 of Rancho Palos Verdes course even as Davao I and Pepe Lim bagged the top team and individual prizes, respectively, in the highly successful southern leg of the Rotary Golfing Fellowship Foundation of the Philippines (RGFFP) tournament recently.

Using a Ping Zing 6-iron and a Top Flite No. 1 XL 2000 ball, Davao West Rotarian Llamas holed his tee-shot on the 155-yard hole to end four years of waiting for the jackpot donated by Seaboard Eastern Insurance, Co of Joe Halili-Co.

Llamas' big shot overshadowed the winning efforts of Lim. Davao I and the other victorious teams in the regular tournament.

The event had Taylor Made, Petron Corp., Grepalife, SYM Mitsukoshi, Menzi&Co., Smart Communications, EEI Corporation and Casino Filipino-Davao as among the chief backers with Cebu Pacific as the official carrier and Waterfront as official hotel.

Lim of Makati-West emerged the overall individual champion with his 84 points. Obet Samson of Metro West Triangle took Flight A, Dado Mahipus of Davao ruled Flight B. Alejandro Dayot topped Flight C and Jun Ramos of Central Davao won Flight D. Tommy Tabanas of Carmen Valley submitted the lowest gross.

Dayot, who witnessed the Llamas ace like Herr Bautista and Dan Banla, joined hands with Mahipus to lead the Davao I team to the overall team title. Also with them were Arnold Navales, Franklin Buno and Nick Olarte.

Cebu offers venues for 2005 SEA Games

CEBU City is capable of providing high-quality venues for some events when the Philippines plays host to the Southeast Asian Games in 2005.

This was the assessment of Cebu City Sports Commission chair Jonathan Guardo who observed the conduct of the biennial meet and visited the venues for weightlifting, taekwondo, pencak silat and archery during the recent SEA Games.

Three cities playedd host to various events in the Kuala Lumpur games. They are Kuala Lumpur, Johore Bahru and Penang.

The setup proved successful that top Philippine sports officials are contemplating on copying the strategy.

Philippine Sports Commission chair Butch Tuason and Philippine Olympic Committee president Celso Dayrit both agreed that co-hosting of local cities will benefit the whole country.

Guardo, after meeting with Tuason and Dayrit, said he will present Cebu City's formal bid after getting the green light from the Cebu City Council and Mayor Tomas Osmeña.

'Sagupaan' meet Sept. 29

THE SAGUPAAN 5- Stag Bigtime Invitational Derby billed as a showdown of big-time cockers from Metro Manila and Pampanga will blast off this coming Saturday (Sept. 29) at the Pampanga Coliseum, San Fernando City.

Cockfighting idol Patrick Antonio is hosting the event.

Antonio, host of the popular "Sagupaan" television show on IBC -13 every Saturday (12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m.) said that the guaranteed prize at stake is P500,000. The champion will also receive a huge Sagupaan trophy.

Stags wingbanded by NGBA, GFBAN, NCA, Ucap, Pagba and Migba are qualified but will be legbanded on the day of the derby, from 8 am. to 12 noon, for re-classification. Allowed weights are from 1.7 kg to 2.2 kg.

Among those invited from Metro Manila are Ucap president Butch Macasaet, Vic Yu, Bobby Wong, Raymond Velayo, Biboy Enriquez, Tony Lasala, Benjie Lim, Jessie Viceo, Blandy Tolentino, Pol Estrellado, Ram Lopez, Mayor Vic Amante and engineer Sonny Lagon.

Redline posts 6 victories

A TOTAL of 107 cars competed in the PDRF-Motolite Superdrags recently at the Port City, Manila Harbour Center. The event showcased the top four drag racing teams in the country.

Redline Racing dominated the event with six wins while Team Autoplus scored only two wins.

Redline Racing's Dondi Montecillo, with an 11.30-second clocking, bagged the PDRF Quick 8 heads-up class and won Motolite's P8,000 cash prize. Teammate Richard Go got P3,000 for taking second spot. Both campaigned turboed and nitrous oxide-fed Lancer Evos.

SEAG heroes sure Asiad bets

By Marc Anthony Reyes

THE PHILIPPINE Olympic Committee will recommend the outright inclusion of all the 29 Southeast Asian Games gold medallists to the national delegation for the Pusan Asian Games next year.

The decision, done by the POC executive council last week, is a form of incentive for the gold medal winners in the recent Kuala Lumpur SEA Games where the country harvested 30 gold medals.

Of these athletes, only long-distance runner Eduardo Buenavista won double gold.

However, Dayrit said the national sports associations will still have the final say in their Asiad lineup.

"They must be recommended by their NSAs first," said Dayrit, who explained that only the NSAs could determine if these athletes are still in shape by the time the Asiad is held.

Dayrit added the POC has instructed NSAs to submit an assessment of the conduct of officiating during the recent SEA Games, particularly in non-measurable events.

Among the NSAs expected to come up with their positions are boxing, wushu, pencak silat, gymnastics, karatedo, judo and taekwondo.

Incidentally, with the exception of taekwondo, these sports performed badly during the Malaysia Games.

Such comments will then be submitted to the SEA Games Federation for action, according to Dayrit.

"Without casting any doubt on the judgment during the SEA Games, we want to help minimize, if not eliminate, faults in judging," said Dayrit. "We will indicate that this is all for the betterment of the SEA Games."

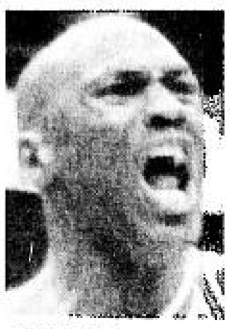
The POC executive council will also ask the Basketball Association of the Philippines to make a report regarding what happened during their Fiba-orchestrated elections.

Dayrit said the POC couldn't come up with a decision on whether or not to recognize Tiny Literal as BAP president until they receive any communication from the basketball body.

Likewise, the POC revised its arbitration procedures by adding a provision where both parties are required to sign a declaration to abide by the POC arbitration committee decision.

This is to prevent disgruntled NSAs from resorting to outside intervention during disputes that are internal by nature, said Dayrit.

Jordan playing for Wizards–Post



JORDAN

WASHINGTON— Basketball legend Michael Jordan will come out of retirement to play for the NBA's Washington Wizards, the Washington Post reported in Monday's editions..

Jordan, who has been part owner and president of basketball operations of the Wizards since January 2000, was to announce his decision as early as Monday, the Post said, citing a National Basketball Association source.

The team announcement will come via a news release, the source told the newspaper, adding that Jordan will not make a public statement regarding his return until Oct. 1, a day before the team begins training camp, the Post said.

The announcement had been expected last Thursday, but was postponed after the Sept. 11 hijack attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

At 38, an advanced age for basketball players, Jordan will sign a contract for the 10-year veteran minimum salary of $1 million, the Post said. In his last year in the NBA, Jordan earned $36 million.

Jordan will have to sell his 5 percent to 10 percent stake in the Wizards, the Post said.

Reuters

ALL SMILES
Jelena Dokic of Yugoslavia smiles as she raises her fist after her victory against Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario of Spain in the final of Princess Cup tennis tournament in Tokyo. Dokic won, 6-4, 6-2. AFP

Chess listing going on

REGISTRATION for the 9th annual Codiñera Memorial Chess Tournament on Sept. 30 is now in full swing at the 2/F Center Mall, Greenhills Shopping Center (GSC) in San Juan and at the MCC office in Paranaque.

For more details, call 826-8560 and 0919-331-0206.

Supported by Milo, Fabcon Phils, RFM Corp., Awards Specialists, Winter House, and Ortigas & Company Partnership Ltd., the one-day event is divided into two sections—open and unrated.

The P45,000 tourney will employ the seven-round Swiss System and time control of 25 minutes per player in selecting the top 10 finishers.

Riviera entries beat Southwoods rivals

TWO-TIME champion Riviera moved closer to an automatic semis berth when it brought down fancied Manila Southwoods, 2.5-1.5, in the penultimate playdate of the 2001 Federation Golf League eliminations in various courses over the weekend.

While tandems of Comm. Danny Pizarro-Bobby Celestino (scramble) and Pepon Inigo-Bobby Inigo (aggregate) delivered the full points with rousing 6&5 wins, the bestball duo of Co. Rico Javier-Phil Judan salvaged a draw with the Southwoods pair of Angelo-Boy Escano to complete the stunning reversal.

With 11 points, Riviera needs only to beat Eastridge to claim the No. 1 slot. Southwoods, on the other hand, is expected to beat Orchard and pray for Eastridge to at least draw with Riviera.

It was a wild and wooly week that saw out-of-contention Valley stalls Alabang's own bid for No. 1 with a 3-1 victory and Forest Hills complicating matters in Group II with eight points. Forest Hills moved up to third with seven points while Malarayat is in fourth with six points.

Despite the loss to Valley, Alabang is already assured of a quarterfinals berth in Group III just like Manila Golf which took a 3-1 beating from Canlubang.

The top two teams with the best records after the eliminations will advance outright to the semis. The No. 2 teams in each group will join the third division winner in a home-and-away series to determine the other semifinalists.

In a no-bearing match, Sta. Elena walloped Orchard, 3-1, to stay in third in Division I.

Els, Begay join JW tilt

SOUTH African Ernie Els and American Notah Begay join the 2002 Johnnie Walker Classic in January, bringing to four the number of the world's top players who have confirmed their participation in the $1 million event slated Jan. 24-27 at the Lake Karrinyup Country Club in Perth, Australia.

A two-time US Open winner, Els, at No. 4 the highest placed non-American in the world rankings, has had a long and successful history in the Johnnie Walker Classic, winning the event the last time it was held in Australia in 1997 at Hope Island.

The 31-year-old Els, who reached the world's No. 1 ranking in 1997, also finished second in 1998, losing in a playoff to world's No. 1 Tiger Woods, and settled for third place last year.

Though he has not recorded a win this year, Els has pocketed US $7.5 million in pro golf and will surely be a major drawcard in the rich event, which has earlier attracted the likes of Spaniard Sergio Garcia and Scot Colin Montgomerie.

Begay, on the other hand, burst onto the golf scene by winning twice on his rookie year on the US PGA Tour in 1999.

GOLF WATCH

Garcia charges past Goosen

SAINT NOM LA BRETECHE, France —Sergio Garcia looked down and out at four behind with four holes to play against U.S. Open champion Retief Goosen at the Lancome Trophy Sunday. A stunning five-shot swing over the last four holes gave him an amazing victory.Then, still wearing the back ribbon on his cap that he has worn all week, he dedicated his victory primarily to the victims and families of the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington Sept. 11. The 21-year-old Spaniard closed with a 65 for an 18-under-par total of 266 while Goosen, whose similar lapse at the closing holes almost cost him his US Open triumph, shot 67 for 267.

AP

Fischer holds off Sorenstam

NORTH AUGUSTA, South Carolina —Tina Fischer shot a 2-under-par 70 Sunday to hold off a charge by Annika Sorenstam and win the Asahi Ryokuken International Championship, becoming the LPGA's fourth straight first-time winner. Fischer began the final round two strokes behind second-round leader Kris Tschetter. She took the lead with birdies on Nos. 3 and 6. She finished three rounds on the Mount Vintage Plantation course at 10-under 206, one shot ahead of Emilee Klein (70) and Tracy Hanson (71). Sorenstam and Lori Kane shot 68s and were another stroke back.

AP

President's Cup meet to honor Abalos

THE FIRST President's Cup, an 18-hole event honoring Wack Wack Golf and Country Club President Ben Abalos, will be played on Saturday, Sept. 29, at the West Course.

This was announced by sports and games committee chair Antonio "Tonichi" Tuason, who conceptualized and proposed the event to Abalos and the Wack Wack Board.

"Since the club was established in 1930, it has never staged a tournament in honor of the incumbent president," Tuason said. "It's time we have one. This will be an annual affair from now on."

"Naturally, I'm honored to be the first honoree of this event," said Abalos. "And I would like thank the Board and Tonichi for their efforts in organizing this kind of a tournament.

"At the same time, on behalf of the Board, I would also like to express my thanks to those who will take part, plus all sponsors and other supporters."

Early sponsors are Unilever, Citra Metro Manila Tollways Corporation, Red Ribbon and Gatorade, Toyota Balintawak, Mitsubishi Motor Philippines and Kymco are hole-in-one sponsors.

Club members and their dependents are qualified to play. They will be classified according to their board handicaps.

Those with nine handicap or better will play in the men's Group I; 10-18, Group II; 19-27, Group III; and 28 and above, Group IV. In the ladies' division, those with handicaps of 25 or lower will be in Group I, while those with handicaps 26 and above will be in Group II.

Mandaluyong derby on tonight

MANDALUYONG Coliseum's 3rd Ucap/Red Flag 7-Stag Derby, to be hosted by Benjie Lim and Tony Lasala, unfolds at 6 tonight at the Mandaluyong Coliseum

More than 60 fights are on tap in the event hosted by Benjie Lim and Tony Lasala. Sponsors are Sagupaan Super Feeds and Washout Shampoo.

A huge crowd is expected to troop to the Mandaluyong Coliseum because of the exciting quality fights (seven to eight fights per hour). It is also recognized as the leading venue for big-time cocking personalities and a management well-known for implementing the "Bayad-Agad" system on center bets (*parada*).

For inquiries, please contact 531-40003, 531-4005, 534-4110 and 535-2341.

Last week's champions in the 2nd Ucap/PE San Pablo PBRJ 7-Stag Derby were businessman-sportsman Vic Yu (King Boxer) and Blandy Tolentino (Seven Lakes PE) who posted six points apiece.

Meanwhile, more than 45 participants are expected to take part in the "4th Ucap/Arnis Master 7-Stag Derby" next week (Oct. 2 and4) to be hosted by popular jeweler Raymond Velayo.

MVP AWARD
Team ABS-CBN 2 forward-guard Zoilo Gonzales (left) receives the MVP trophy of the recently concluded Broadcasters Invitational Basketball Tournament (Bibato) organized by San Miguel Corporation wherein ABS-CBN 2 emerged as champion for Division I and dzRH for Division II. Awarding the trophy is Ira Maniquis, SMC external relations manager. Also shown are Ramon Santiago (center), SMC media affairs manager, and Serge Alombro, SMC media officer.

WAZZZZUP ?
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE
8th day Bar + Cafe, St. Francis Sq. Ortigas Ctr. — MULATTO (SEPT 25, TUESDAY) — FIRST CIRCLE SEPT 29 ☎ 634.7696/98
BUMA 9595 Kamagong St. Makati — MOONSTRUCKS (ROCK & ROLL) — AEGIS CONCERT SEPT 29 896.2116/896.1939
Café OVERDRIVE — ARTHUR MANUNTAG / ROWENA MICHAELS — FREE ENTRANCE 818.5555/813.1348
CHATTERBOX WEST 41 West Ave. Quezon City — NOTYNOTES / SOUND FUNATIX — TRILOGY SEPT. 29 411.3650/374.3750
Cowboy Grill Brgy. Almanza, Las Piñas — NOVIA / KOOL JACKS/GOALKEYS — ☎ 801.7644
Cowboy Grill Arqueza St. Mabini — THINKERS w/ JOGRAD / STAY TUNED/FREEZE — NO ENTRANCE FEE 525.1474/525.4269
Cowboy Grill Remedios St., Malate — SERSIDE / PUZZLES — NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 521.8143
Cowboy Grill Novaliches Q.C. — PRYRIGIAN / HIMIG — NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 936.9757
Hutu's Hut Kalayaan Ave., Makati — PURO RITMO WED 9 PM / AFRO-LATINO BAND — DJ GIGS THU-SAT 896.8763/895.9858
KAMPO 2088 #47 West Avenue Q.C. — PASSAGE / ENTITY/BAND AT WORK — P 200 CONSUMABLE 373.5110/373.7181
Examiner's LITE n' LIVE #52 Examiner St., Q.C. — R.O.B / CRUSH & LESTER — P 150 CONSUMABLE 373.2221/373.7183
MUSIC WAREHOUSE — ALAMID / 7 SECONDS — 735.1405/735.1280
TIA MARIA'S Jupiter St., Makati City — CITY BORN — ALLAN K SEPT. 26 ☎ 890.4735
Tropical FOREST Cafe · Grill · Restaurant — MARMALADE — LUNCH SPECIAL P 250 MON-FRI/400.7438
OTHER PLACES
Cowboy Grill Biñan, Laguna — FAT 16 / BROWNIE — NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ (049) 511.7268
THE VENUE DAVAO Jacinto Ext. Davao — DAUGHTERS & BANANA — ANGELA VELEZ SEPT 29 ☎ (082) 224.4150
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 912-8983

AUCTION IN MALINTA
AIM
UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION
Mitsubishi Delica 4X4 Vans
2 of 150 VANS
Nissan Serena Pass. Van
1 of 150 VANS
Late Model Honda Tact Scooters
3 of 200 Motorbikes
Late Model Isuzu Elf - NPR Dropside
1 of 50 ISUZU ELF
Late Model Isuzu Elf NPR Alum. Closed Vans
2 of 10
Fuso Fighter Wing Van
1 of 5 4-Ton Wing Vans
Fuso Fighter Dropsides
2 of 20 4-ton Dropsides
Asia Rocsta 4x4 Jeeps
2 of 20 Korean Jeeps
Satellite Portable Toilet
1 of 70 Portable Toilets
Strictly a...
ONE-DAY AFFAIR
ALL-PARADE AUCTION
OCT. 3, 2001
8:30 a.m.
INSPECTION DATES:
SEPT. 29 & 30, OCT. 1 & 2
All lots must go! Guaranteed no minimum price!
All items taxes and duties paid!
PASSENGER VEHICLES • MOTORCYCLES • 4x4 VEHICLES • PASSENGER VANS • JEEPS • LIGHT CBU TRUCKS • and MORE!
AUCTION SITE:
(Former Tatah Compound)
Km 19 East Service Rd. North Luzon Expressway, Lawang Bato, Valenzuela City
For Inquiries, call 984-0215/16 984-0278/79

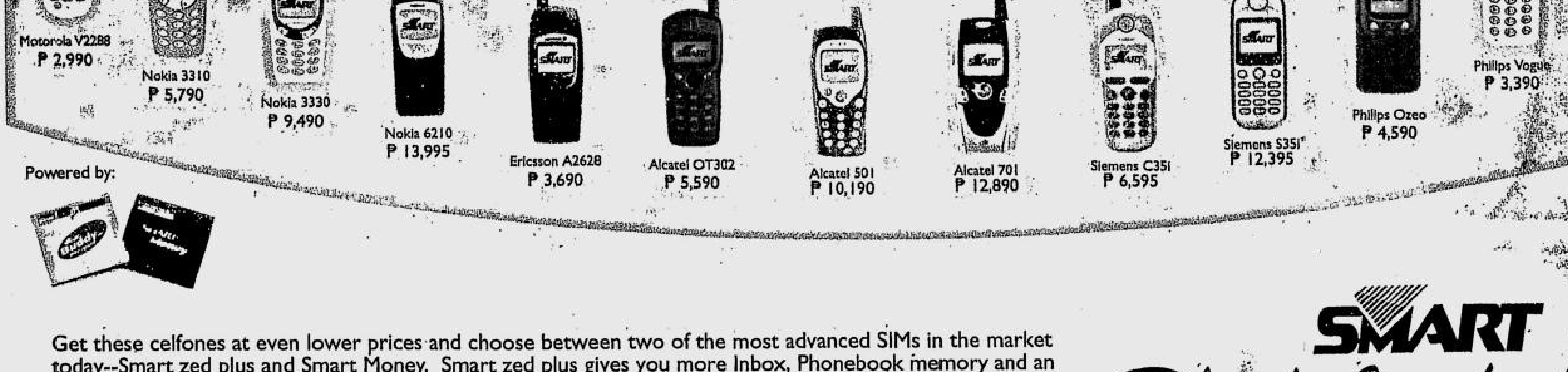
BIG TRUCKS & HEAVY EQUIPMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE UPCOMING NOVEMBER AUCTION

SMART Buddy GSM Pre-paid

Big News On Our Amazingly Affordable Celfones.

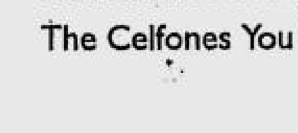
As Low As

₱2,990



Motorola V2288	₱ 2,990
Nokia 3310	₱ 5,790
Nokia 3330	₱ 9,490
Nokia 6210	₱ 13,995
Ericsson A2628	₱ 3,690
Alcatel OT302	₱ 5,590
Alcatel 501	₱ 10,190
Alcatel 701	₱ 12,890
Siemens C35i	₱ 6,595
Siemens S35i"	₱ 12,395
Philips Ozeo	₱ 4,590
Philips Vogue	₱ 3,390

Powered by:



Get these celfones at even lower prices and choose between two of the most advanced SIMs in the market today--Smart zed plus and Smart Money. Smart zed plus gives you more Inbox, Phonebook memory and an "add and delete" feature that lets you choose the services you need. Smart Money gives you cashless shopping convenience with your celfone.

The Celfones You Want. The Most Advanced SIMs You Can Imagine. What More Could You Ask For?

SMART

Simply Amazing!

- **DOTC declares war on colorum vehicles** A20
- **Collision kills 2 men** A20

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

- **AWOL cops nabbed selling drugs in QC** A21
- **Bus kills young mother; 10-month-old baby survives** A21

La Sallian abducted outside Ateneo

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

IN AN eerie twist of fate, another relative of former Supreme Court justice Emilio Gancayco was abducted in front of the Ateneo De Manila University on Sunday night.

Javier Yñigo Gerardo R. Gancayco, 18, was the second relative of the former justice to be abducted in the same area in two months.

The two armed men who abducted him released Gancayco unharmed, said investigator SPO3 Resty De Leon of the Central Police District Criminal Investigation Unit. Gancayco is a La Salle student and a resident of North Xavierville in Quezon City.

Police said the armed men approached Gancayco while he was in his 1999 silver Honda Civic (WNS-533), which was parked in front of Global Bank on Katipunan Avenue about 7:30 p.m. Sunday.

Yñigo was waiting for his sister Karissa who was at the bank withdrawing money from an ATM machine, SPO3 De Leon said.

Yñigo told police that one of the men took over the wheel while the other sat in the back.

The one in the driver's seat started the engine and drove toward Barangay Laging Handa, De Leon said.

They drove around Laging Handa for several minutes before they decided to leave Gancayco in a dark alley near Lydia's Lechon on Roces Avenue, police said.

LA SALLIAN/ A20

CRUZ

It's a girl!

BY LEAH SALTERIO

SUNSHINE Cruz gave birth early yesterday morning to a 7.3-pound baby girl, her first-born with actor Cesar Montano.

IT'S A GIRL/ A20

SHAMPOO Coagulates & Clogs your NOZZLES... use only

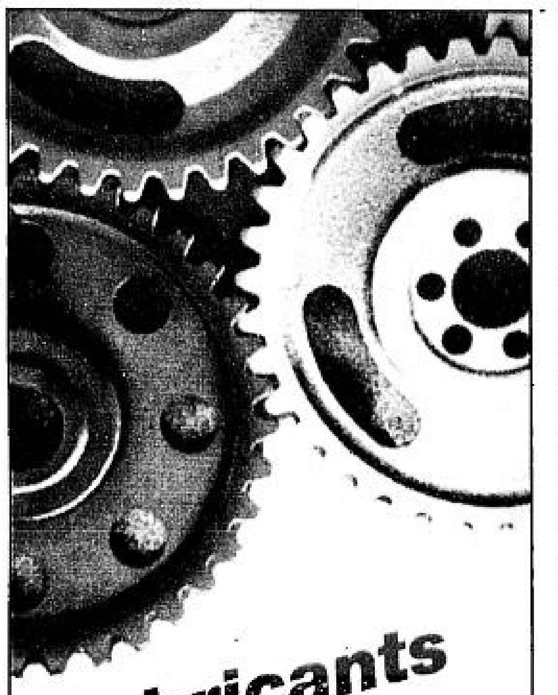
WASH 'n WYPE®

Windshield Washer for Tropical Weather

- Equally effective on rainy and hot summer days.
- With POLY-AKTIVES® that remove troublesome road grime, dust, grease, and wiper smear.
- Paint and rubber friendly.
- Pre-mixed, ready to use.

DYNAMIX ENTERPRISES
1013 EDSA, Quezon City
Tel. 3722464 • 4167837 • 3723640

Robinsons Handyman • Wellsmart • True Value • Autosport-Megamall • Hans Infinite-Shangri-la • Dans Car Dagupan • All Mitsubishi, Honda, Toyota & Nissan dealers • All SM Workshop & ACE Hardwares



Lubricants Distributors Wanted

If you have:
- an existing distribution network
- a sales and support group organization
- warehousing and delivery facilities
- experience in distribution of industrial and / or automotive products
- good credit rating

Please send your Letter of Intent to:
TOTALFINAELF PHILIPPINES CORPORATION
31/F Urban Bank Plaza, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. corner Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City
Attention: LUBRICANTS SALES MANAGER
Tel. No.: (02) 849-0991 (Look for Cherry)
Fax No.: (02) 849-0989

elf

hp invent

www.hp.com

Quit your day job

Forget about the hassles of work with **HP's Print Your Way to a Million** raffle promo. Get a chance to win 1 million pesos in our Grand Draw or any of over 100 other prizes. With original hp Inkjet or Laserjet print cartridges you don't only get a chance to be a millionaire... but you'll always be a winner with its unbeatable printing quality.

1. Every purchase of any participating original hp Inkjet print cartridge(s) or hp Laserjet print cartridge(s) entitles a customer to join. (Look for the hp **Print Your Way to a Million** sticker on the following models. hp Laserjet print cartridges: 92298A, 92298X, C3903F, C3906F, C4092A, C4096A, C4127A, C4127X, hp Inkjet print cartridges: 51626A, C1823D, 51629A, C6614D, 51645A, C6615D, 51649A; only boxes with this sticker are qualified as entries.)
2. Fill out the raffle coupon on the sticker attached on the box with your name, address, and telephone/mobile phone number. Indicate your school/company name and address, as well as the complete name and address of store where the hp Inkjet/hp Laserjet print cartridge was purchased. Complete the statement by filling in the blanks. Then affix your signature to complete the form. Incomplete entries will be disqualified.
3. Cut out the raffle stub portion as directed (for hp Inkjet print cartridges, the entire box will serve as the entry) and drop entries in any of the **Print Your Way to a Million** drop boxes located in all National Bookstores nationwide and selected hp dealers in GMA/Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao. All drop boxes will be labeled per area.
4. A total of four (4) raffle draws will be held every other week - two (2) draws per grouping and one (1) Grand Draw at the Publicis Dialog Office: 10/F IBM Plaza, Ave. Eastwood City Cyber Park, E.Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Bagumbayan, Quezon City at 3PM. All non-winning entries of the preliminary draws will automatically be included in the Grand Draw.

Promo period is from September 18 up to November 23, 2001

PRELIMINARY RAFFLE DRAWS

RAFFLE DRAW DATE	AREA COVERAGE	DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES	PRIZES
1st Raffle Draw October 3, 2001	GMA/ Luzon	September 30, 2001	3 winners of P50,000 each 35 winners of 1 hp calculator
2nd Raffle Draw October 17, 2001	Visayas/ Mindanao	October 12, 2001	2 winners of P50,000 each 15 winners of 1 hp calculator
3rd Raffle Draw October 31, 2001	GMA/ Luzon	October 26, 2001	3 winners of P50,000 each 35 winners of 1 hp calculator 1 winner of Jornada PDA 1 winner of Nokia 6210 1 winner of hp CD Writer
4th Raffle Draw November 14, 2001	Visayas/ Mindanao	November 9, 2001	2 winners of P50,000 each 15 winners of 1 hp calculator 1 winner of Jornada PDA 1 winner of Nokia 6210 1 winner of hp CD Writer

GRAND RAFFLE DRAW

November 28, 2001	Nationwide	November 23, 2001	1 winner of P1,000,000.00

A participant can only win once per raffle draw. If participant's name gets drawn more than once, he/she gets the bigger prize at stake for that particular draw date. Winners will be notified via press releases, registered mail and telephone. HP will shoulder 20% withholding tax for prizes exceeding P10,000.00. To claim the prize, winners must present at least one (1) valid ID (driver's license, company ID, valid passport, etc.) as well as the registered mail notification. Prizes may be claimed at the hp Head Office 9/F Rufino Pacific Tower 6784 Ayala Ave., 1229 Makati City, Philippines, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Mondays to Fridays only. Look for Jun Jurilla or Betty Bentigan. Provincial winners of calculators can claim their prizes at the Publicis Dialog office specified on the registered mail. Prizes not claimed within sixty (60) days from receipt of notification shall be forfeited in favor of HEWLETT-PACKARD Philippines, Corp. with prior approval from DTI. All employees of Hewlett-Packard Philippines Corp., its distributors, dealers, resellers, advertising and promotions agencies and their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity or affinity are not qualified to join.

PRINT YOUR WAY TO A MILLION!

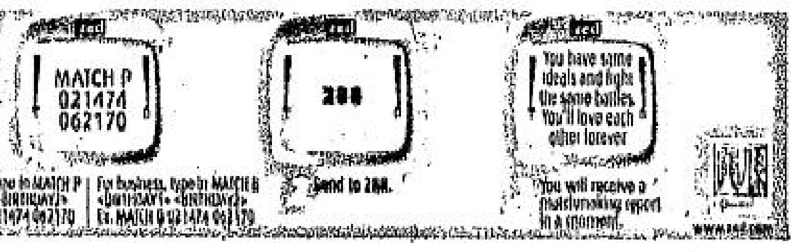
Per DTI-NCR Permit No 1389, Series of 2001.

zed™

Are you and your partner headed for happiness or a showbiz break-up?

Whether you're business partners or partners for life, check your compatibility with zed Matchmaking. For all you know, your perfect match could be a strike out.

Available exclusively to SMART Gold, SMART Buddy and Talk 'N Text subscribers. P2.50 per matchmaking report. For keywords of other zed services, type in NEWS and send to 288.



MATCH P 021474 062170

288

You have same ideals and fight the same battles. You'll love each other forever

For personal, type in MATCH P «BIRTHDAY1» «BIRTHDAY2»
Ex. MATCH P 021474 062170

For business, type in MATCH B «BIRTHDAY1» «BIRTHDAY2»
Ex. MATCH B 021474 062170

Send to 288.

You will receive a matchmaking report in a moment.

www.zed.com

US joins hunt for Abu Sayyaf

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

THE FEDERAL Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is asking the Philippine government to hand over to it captured Abu Sayyaf bandits.

This signals the beginning of the US involvement in the hunt for the elusive Abu Sayyaf terrorists in Sulu and Basilan. The Abu Sayyaf has kidnapped foreign nationals since last year.

The Sulu group kidnapped a number of Europeans and Malaysians last year. The victims were released after ransom was paid.

The group in Basilan has been holding a number of Filipinos and an American couple hostage since they were abducted from a tourist resort in Palawan earlier this year.

***

The kidnapping of the American couple, plus another American who was reportedly killed in captivity by the Abu Sayyaf, was the biggest mistake the Moro terrorists has made.

The US government wants revenge—it euphemistically calls it justice—for the several thousands of Americans killed in the attack on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington DC.

And revenge it will have on the Abu Sayyaf, which has received aid from Osama bin Laden, the prime suspect in the US attacks. The Philippine government will turn over to the United States all captured Abu Sayyaf members.

***

The rest of the Abu Sayyaf who are still free and holding kidnap victims will soon have their comeuppance.

If elite US troops do not take part in going after the Abu Sayyaf, the US government will surely provide our Armed Forces the wherewithal to fight the home-grown terrorists.

Our soldiers are ill-equipped and, let's face it, ill-trained to go after the Abu Sayyaf. Many members of this terrorist group were once mujahedeens in Afghanistan when that country was fighting the Russian army. As we all know, the Afghans drove out the Russians.

***

The Filipinos should rejoice at the news that the US government wants the captured Abu Sayyaf extradited. We have found an ally in the most powerful nation on earth.

This means that military aid from the United States will pour in to bolster the fighting capability of our Armed Forces.

Most of the war material, such as jeeps, six-by-six trucks, armored vehicles, helicopters and transport planes being used by the Armed Forces were handed down by the United States when its military bases were still operating in the country.

The Americans stopped giving us military aid after we drove them out. Most of the materials are in a state of disrepair.

***

The Senate resumes tomorrow the investigation of allegations that Sen. Panfilo Lacson was engaged in kidnapping-for-ransom, bank robbery, drug trafficking, and money laundering when he was still a policeman.

Citizens concerned with the welfare of the nation should again focus their attention on the Lacson issue which was somehow eclipsed by the terrorist attacks on the United States.

If the citizenry loses interest in the issues against Lacson, this country might someday wake up being like Colombia or other nations where criminals rule the government.

***

Those coup rumors are being fanned by irresponsible statements from high government officials.

One of them is Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, former Armed Forces chief of staff and Marine commandant.

Biazon was overheard on the golf course telling other retired and active generals: "We're not getting anywhere with the Arroyo administration. Why don't we stage a coup?"

Such irresponsible statement from a senator and a former AFP chief of staff seems to give credence to rumors about an impending coup.

Please shut up, Mr. Biazon. Confine your juvenile statements in the Senate.

Biazon's statement has reached Gen. Diomedio Villanueva, the current AFP chief of staff.

Villanueva's reaction? "Why doesn't he try staging a coup? *Mapapahiya lang siya at ibang kasama niya*," Villanueva said.

DOTC declares war on colorum vehicles

By Abigail L. Ho

TRANSPORTATION Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez has declared war on colorum vehicles, which he described as favorite venues for crimes like rape and robbery.

Yesterday, Alvarez ordered Land Transportation Office (LTO) chief Edgardo Abenina and Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) chair Dante Lantin to work extra hard to catch these vehicles.

"I had already issued a memo to both the LTO and the LTFRB," Alvarez said. "The LTO is responsible for catching the colorum vehicles, but I also asked the LTFRB to join them."

Alvarez also sought the cooperation of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) and the Philippine National Police-Traffic Management Group (PNP-TMG) in his war on colorum vehicles.

Last week, he launched an anti-crime campaign against criminal syndicates allegedly using colorum vehicles in drug trading, kidnapping, car theft, rape and murder.

Fake license plates and nonexistent franchises of colorum vehicles make them ideal for criminal activities, he said.

"The colorum problems have matured to become monsters, from just cheating the government of taxes and fees to helping criminal syndicates in their operations," Alvarez said.

Earlier, he disclosed that owners of colorum vehicles were getting help from LTO and LTFRB insiders, which was why Abenina and Lantin had to work double time in catching these syndicates.

"I am putting the drive on top of my priority list and I will hold Abenina and Lantin responsible if nothing concrete happens to this drive," Alvarez said.

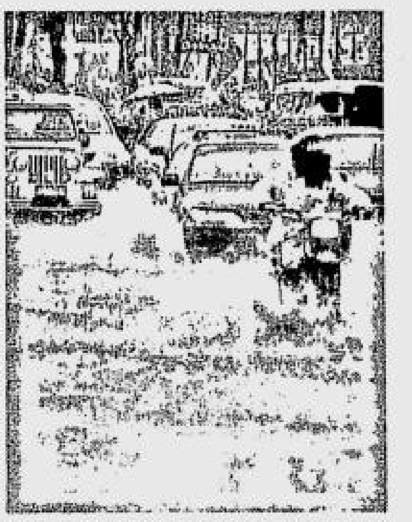
About 3.7 million vehicles are running in the streets nationwide, according to records of the Department of Transportation and Communications.

About 2.8 million of these are privately owned, and about 800,000 are public utility vehicles (PUVs).

Of the 800,000 PUVs, about 40 percent are colorum vehicles, and 28 percent of the colorum vehicles are operating in Metro Manila.

Alvarez had ordered Lantin to provide Abenina a "sure list" of legally franchised vehicles so both the LTFRB and the LTO could start their nationwide crackdown on colorum vehicles.

"We believe that a crackdown on the activities of these syndicates must start by tightening the noose on these two agencies which are directly responsible for issuing vehicle license plates and franchises," Alvarez said.



RANDY HORMILLOSA, ERIKARAZAS

FLASH FLOODS AND INSTANT SHELTERS. A man huddles under a cardboard sheet on a sidewalk near the Manila City Hall to protect himself from the sudden heavy rain Monday afternoon. The man gets soaked anyway. The rain as expected brought flash floods in many streets of the metropolis, such as Naia Road in Parañaque.

Ablan grandson faces frustrated murder raps

By Alcuin Papa

FRUSTRATED murder and attempted homicide charges are set to be filed against a grandson of former Ilocos Rep. Roque Ablan after he figured in a brawl with members of a rival fraternity which led to the mauling of a San Beda College law student in Pasay City Sunday night.

Police dismissed fears that there would be a whitewash in the case against Michael Ablan who, along with 11 others, would be charged for beating up Leif Opina, 23, of Cabuyao, Laguna.

SPO2 Eduardo Cabria told reporters they submitted the case yesterday to the Pasay City prosecutor's office for inquest.

Listed in the charge sheet were Ablan, 22, of Quezon City; Antonio Engelbert Ian Castro, 24, of Malate, Manila; Norberto Nares, 23, of Las Piñas City; a certain Adrian Ocampo, and eight John Does.

In his sworn statement, Opina said he and other members of the Lambda Rho Beta fraternity went to a Chow King fastfood outlet on Buendia Avenue in Pasay City about 3:30 a.m. on Sunday to buy food for their "brothers" who had taken the bar examinations.

When Opina and his group were loading the food into their car, they were allegedly attacked by members of a rival fraternity, Lex Leonum, who were armed with lead pipes.

Ablan was said to be with the Lex Leonum during the attack.

A security guard of the fastfood outlet, Lucio Alvarez, called the police.

A team of policemen on foot patrol under SPO1 Meliton Evangelista responded to the call. One of the lawmen fired a warning shot in the air. This sent the Lex Leonum members scampering toward a Tamaraw FX and a Nissan Sentra (UDC-755).

Police said those who boarded the Nissan Sentra fired at the patrolling policemen, forcing the lawmen to shoot back.

The policemen chased the fleeing fraternity members until the latter were forced to abandon their vehicle at the corner of Buendia Avenue and F.B. Harrison Street.

The suspects then tried to escape in a taxi, but police managed to corner the vehicle and arrested Castro and Nares.

Ablan was taken to the Makati Medical Center where he is still undergoing treatment for multiple gunshot wounds, while Opina was taken to the Manila Sanitarium Hospital.

Recovered from the Nissan Sentra were two spent shells of a .45-caliber pistol.

Cabria told reporters that the two fraternities were indeed rivals and that there had been clashes between the two groups before.

Fears of a whitewash surfaced when reporters covering Pasay City received a press release from the Southern Police District Office saying Ablan was a "victim" of a shooting incident and that SPD Director Chief Supt. Jose Gutierrez had ordered a paraffin and ballistics test for the policemen involved.

But Chief Insp. Reynaldo Baral of the Pasay City Police Criminal Investigation Division told reporters that Ablan's group had indeed traded shots with responding policemen.

"There are witnesses who will attest to this," Baral said. "And from our inquiries, the policemen involved did not violate any rule of engagement."

He added that Ablan's injuries were concentrated on his legs. He also gave the assurance that there would be "no whitewash in the investigation."

Last November, Ablan figured in a brawl with other youngsters right in front of the Kamuning police station in Quezon City.

Ablan and two of his companions reportedly brawled with other youngsters outside a billiard hall on Timog Avenue.

At first, the two groups appeared to have settled their differences at the police station. But once they got outside, they started fighting again.

It's a girl!

(From page A19)

Cruz had the baby by normal delivery at 12:45 a.m. Monday, after almost 24 hours in the labor room at St. Luke's Medical Center in Quezon City.

They're naming the baby Angelina Isabel.

"Angel has been a lucky name for me," Montano told the Inquirer. "Isabelle was taken from the street (Isabel) in Sta. Ana where I grew up. I have very fond childhood memories in that street."

The actor's two children from a previous marriage are named Angela Christine, 19; and Angelo Christian, 15.

Montano's first wife died of cancer. He also sired a kid with actress Teresa Loyzaga.

Montano said Angelina Jolie is also he and his wife's favorite actress, that's why they adopted it as the name for their first baby.

"This is a very important part of my life," Montano said. "I can't wait to hold my baby. I was only 17 when I first became a father. Now I'm sure it will be thrilling to experience fatherhood all over again."

Montano was beside Cruz from the time the actress was wheeled into the labor room Saturday afternoon.

However, Cruz was advised to go home that same night, after she did not have any contractions. She was brought again to St. Luke's yesterday afternoon and had an induced delivery.

Cruz and Montano were married in a grand wedding on Sept. 14, 2000 at the Coconut Palace at the CCP Complex.

Montano said that this year, they celebrated their first anniversary by simply watching the news on CNN after the terrorist bombings in the United States.

"But we had spaghetti, cake and ice cream at home," he said.

Collision kills 2 in Bulacan

By Christian V. Esguerra

TWO men yesterday morning were crushed to death when a truck collided with a van on the North Luzon Expressway in Guiguinto, Bulacan, authorities said.

Willie Santillan and his unidentified companion were pinned to death when their Mitsubishi L-300 van (WRP-697) smashed into a trailer truck around 10 a.m., said Manny Frades, radio operator at the Philippine National Construction Corp.

Both men died instantly as they were crushed in the wreckage of the van, Frades said.

They were driving toward Manila when the trailer truck (PYM-972) suddenly appeared on their lane and slammed into their van at Kilometer 34 of the expressway in Barangay Tabi, Guiguinto, authorities said.

Frades said the northbound truck swerved to the opposite lane while trying to overtake a passenger jeepney one of whose tires had blown off.

The truck rammed into the van, which was running at high speed, authorities said.

Members of the Guiguinto police arrested the unidentified truck driver. He is facing charges of reckless imprudence resulting in double homicide.

La Sallian...

(From page A19)

But before they took off in his car, the two armed suspects also took Gancayco's P600 in cash and two cell phones, an 8890 and a 3210 Nokia.

On Aug. 5, also a Sunday, a nephew of the former justice, Paul Gancayco Alvarez, 42, was abducted while he was in his car waiting for the traffic light to turn green in front of Ateneo.

Three men broke into Alvarez's car, took over the wheel and drove around for eight hours, while Alvarez was sitting blindfolded behind the driver.

The suspects left Alvarez in his car unharmed after they took his money and wristwatch.

Alvarez said the suspects were in their late 40s.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Tuesday, September 25, 2001
25th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: **Ezra 6:7-8, 12, 14-20**
Gospel: **XLk 8:19-21**

Then his mother and his relatives came to him, but they could not get to him because of the crowd. Someone told him, "Your mother and your brothers are standing outside and wish to meet you." Then Jesus answered, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it."

Commentary

Some born-again groups use this passage to disprove the virginity of Mary, because it says that Jesus had brothers. That's not the point of the passage. Considering the passages before and after it, our passage drives a strong point about our response to Jesus' preaching. Addressing himself to the thick crowd, Jesus says it is not enough just to listen to his words, one must also do accordingly. What matters to Jesus is the hearing and doing of his words. Jesus considers mother, brothers and sisters those who do both. Thus the evangelist gives a new perspective to those who are serious in listening. He considers them not just his disciples but members of his family. Let us then be true to his words.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cnl.net; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (CRIMINAL PROCEDURE)—Allegation in information in rape cases—Knowledge of the offender of the mental disability of the victim at the time of the commission of the crime of rape qualifies the crime and makes it punishable by death under Article 266-B, Paragraph 10 of the Revised Penal Code, as amended by R.A. 8353. An allegation in the information of such knowledge of the offender is necessary as a crime can only be qualified by circumstances pleaded in the indictment. A contrary ruling would result to a denial of the right of the accused to be informed of the charges against him, and hence a denial of due process. In the case before us, there was no allegation in the information that the accused had knowledge of the mental disability of the victim at the time rape was committed. Thus, notwithstanding proof of such knowledge, the accused can only be held liable for simple rape. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Gonzaga-Reyes, Third Division, People v. Magabo, G.R. No. 139471, January 23, 2001]

Digest by R.B. Vera

Police suspect 'kidnap me' in SM abduction

By Christian V. Esguerra

POLICE are puzzled how the primary witness in the killing of Japanese harpist Tadao Hayashi managed to escape from his armed abductors, leading authorities to believe that it was a case of "kidnap me."

An officer of the Northern Police District yesterday theorized that the unusual escape of witness Reynaldo Ortillano became possible because he and "people close to him" could have staged the kidnapping themselves.

"It was probably a 'kidnap me' incident," the officer yesterday told the Inquirer on condition of anonymity.

The officer claimed Ortillano could have orchestrated the abduction so people would believe that Hayashi's alleged ex-lover and masseur, Alex Ilagan, 31, was behind it. "Ilagan would obviously become the suspect if something happened to him (Ortillano)," the officer said.

The Inquirer tried to interview other ranking NPO officers to confirm or deny this allegation, but was informed that they were in a command conference.

Supt. Benjardi Mantele, Caloocan police chief, had said the abduction of Ortillano and his companion last Saturday was probably connected to the Hayashi case.

Ortillano is the primary witness to the killing of Hayashi in his house in LD Village, Tala, Caloocan on July 22. He said he saw Ilagan knocking at the house of Hayashi on the night of the killing, leading investigators to tag the masseur as the primary suspect in the killing.

Police thought they had a strong case against Ilagan until city prosecutors reduced the robbery with homicide charges they had filed against him to mere homicide. This paved the way for Ilagan's temporary release on a P50,000 bail.

"Police and Ortillano were shamed by Ilagan's release," the NPD officer said. "It showed they didn't have a strong case against him after all."

He added that probably to redeem his credibility, Ortillano orchestrated the kidnapping.

The witness and a companion identified only as "Patis" were about to leave SM Fairview mall in Quezon City Saturday before noon when four armed men dragged them into a red Mitsubishi L-300 van, police records showed.

Ortillano, however, managed to sneak out of the vehicle when it stopped due to heavy traffic on Litex Road, investigators said. The alleged abductors drove toward Rodriguez town in Rizal with Ortillano's companion.

The NPD source said the witness could not have easily escaped with only minor injuries since his captors were armed. They could have easily shot him, he said.

But not one of the armed men even tried to run after Ortillano, he added.

Bus kills young mother; 10-month-old baby survives

By Philip C. Tubeza

TEN-MONTH-OLD Atila Ledesma Tagacay will grow up not knowing his mother's love.

He was in the arms of his mother Jennifer S. Tagacay when a speeding bus killed her Sunday night while she was crossing Tomas Morato Avenue in Quezon City.

Tagacay, 24, of 145 Interior II, Parkway St. in Quezon City, did not make it alive to the hospital after a Viron Transit bus (AVB-910) driven by Ray V. Seranilla, 32, hit her, said PO2 Perlito Datu of the Central Police District-Traffic Sector IV.

Police said Seranilla even tried to escape after the incident, but two witnesses managed to catch him.

Seranilla was driving toward E. Rodriguez Sr. Boulevard from Timog Avenue when he hit mother and child in front of the barangay hall of Barangay Obrero about 8:30 p.m. Sunday, police said.

The impact threw Tagacay several meters away, and she landed on the concrete roadside, police said. She lost her hold on her son Atila, who was also injured when he landed headfirst on a trash can, police said.

Seranilla tried to escape after the accident, but witnesses Merlita Rayo and Renante Nunez ran after the bus and caught up with it on E. Rodriguez Avenue, police said.

Tagacay and her son Atila were brought to the Delgado Hospital where the mother was declared dead on arrival.

Atila suffered several injuries and was confined in the hospital, police said.

Seranilla is now detained at the CPD Traffic Sector IV office and is facing charges of reckless imprudence resulting in homicide with physical injuries against him.

Tagacay's mother, Merly, 50, yesterday asked for justice for her daughter and her grandson. She also asked for financial assistance to bury her daughter and for medical treatment for her grandson.

She said the lawyers of Viron Transit told her they should go to court if they wanted financial settlement from the bus company.

"I lost my daughter and my grandson landed on a trash can," Merly said, "but they still would not help us. They would not give us a single centavo."

Merly said she wants to settle this since litigation would not bring back her daughter. She said she also needs money to get her daughter's body from the funeral parlor, which would not release the body until she has paid the expenses.

Her grandson Atila also needs to undergo a CT scan to determine if he suffered injuries in the head, Merly said.

UPHILL CLIMB

The protest against the Reserve Officers Training Corps program is far from over, as this group of students shows with a protest banner they unfurl on the steps leading to Jones Bridge in Sta. Cruz, Manila.

RANDY HORMILLOSA

2 AWOL cops nabbed selling drugs in QC

By Philip C. Tubeza

A POLICEWOMAN and a rookie policeman, both absent without official leave (AWOL), were arrested in Quezon City for selling drugs.

SPO2 Fe Egana, 47, of Batasan Hills, and PO3 Ernesto Cabrera, 46, of Barangay Old Balara, both in Quezon City, were arrested during a buy-bust operation Monday before dawn, the Batasan Hills police station reported yesterday.

Egana was assigned to the Central Police District while Cabrera was detailed with the National Capital Region Police Office.

Police said they got a tip from residents of Jasmin Street that Egana was selling drugs in their community.

Investigator SPO2 Rodrigo Llabres went under cover and set the buy-bust around 12:30 a.m. yesterday near Egana's house.

Llabres met with Egana and pretended to be a buyer. He offered to buy six grams of shabu (methampethamine hydrochloride) from her.

When she agreed and took the marked P100 from him, his colleagues pounced on Egana.

During interrogation, Egana admitted that she had an accomplice who happened to be another policeman. She also gave investigators the address of her accomplice.

Batasan Hills investigators went to the address and there arrested Cabrera, who was not able to escape because he was taking a bath when the police barged into the house.

The two suspects are now detained at the Batasan Hills police station. Their colleagues are preparing the appropriate charges to be filed against them.

'Marker does not make Mehan a historical site'

By Jerome Aning

CAN A place lay claim to history just because a historical marker on it says so?

A Manila city government official yesterday said he does not think so, as he continued to justify the city's controversial construction of a multi-story parking structure at the back of the Metropolitan Theater.

City legal officer Melchor Monsod insisted that the Philippine Historical Research and Markers Committee failed to observe due process when it declared the Mehan Garden historical in 1934.

Monsod also disagreed with the National Historical Institute, the PHRMC's successor, when it argued that the parking facility is part of the Mehan Garden and that the placing of the historical marker during the term of Governor General Frank Murphy "amounted to its declaration as historical, for all legal intents and purposes."

The NHI presented as proof Executive Order 451, issued by Murphy on Oct. 23, 1933, which created and empowered the PHRMC "to procure the permanent marking of historic antiquities."

But Monsod said this was not the case.

"Assuming that there was indeed a marker placed there, which we contend there was none, what is the legal implication?" he asked. "None, because there was no law at that time that laid out the process to be followed in declaring a place a historical site, as well as its impact on the rights of legitimate owners."

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources, which supported the NHI's position, unsuccessfully tried last Friday to force City Hall and the Makati City-based Park N Ride Inc. to stop the P48.5-million construction.

The DENR cited two presidential decrees which forbid anyone from building on the Mehan and other sites declared historical by the NHI.

In a statement, the NHI noted that the DENR is well within its power to issue and enforce the cease-and-desist order because the park is considered an "environmentally critical area," based on Proclamation No. 2146.

The NHI cited that the park fell under that category because of its "unique historic, archaeological, or scientific interest."

But Mayor Lito Atienza refused to obey the DENR order, countering that the project site is not part of Mehan and that the park is never a historical place.

Monsod said even if he were to assume that the NHI was correct in claiming that the Mehan Garden was declared a historical site, the NHI should also have objected to the buildings that have been constructed on the property in recent times.

Conservationists claimed that the Mehan Garden—then known as the Jardin Botanico—is comprised of the whole area east of Intramuros.

Monsod said the NHI did not object to the construction of the Liwasang Bonifacio and the pedestrian underpass beneath it, the Metropolitan Theater, the Intramuros golf course and the Light Rail Transit's central station.

"All these were (part of) the Jardin Botanico, but why was the NHI silent on all these structures?" the city lawyer said. "This gives credence to the suspicion that the actual targets are the mayor's development programs."

ATIENZA

Monsod said City Hall's position is "simple"—that the parking facility is located on Basa Street and on a portion of the parking space reserved for the Metropolitan Theater. Both lots, he said, are properties titled to the city government.

"If they are disputing our right to use our properties, then they should just go to court," the CLO said.

Magnetic cards cut long queues at LRT stations

By Abigail L. Ho

HELLO, magnetic cards. Goodbye, long queues.

Since the Light Rail Transit Authority (LRTA) started using magnetic cards instead of tokens on Sept. 9, the long peak-hour queues became almost nonexistent.

According to LRTA chief Teodoro Cruz Jr., the confusion on the first few days of the LRT's automated fare collection system was just because commuters were not used to the new system.

"But everything's better now," Cruz said. "Passengers have gotten used to the magnetic cards by this time."

He also attributed the shorter queues to the more efficient selling of magnetic cards and the presence of roving tellers who sell pre-encoded tickets during rush hour.

He said the P120 stored-value tickets that they sell have reduced the number of people who line up for tickets every day.

"We're pushing the blue tickets (stored-value tickets) because every ticket sold is like taking 10 people out of the line," he said.

The stored-value tickets are good for at least 10 rides.

Because of the improved situation, the LRTA saw an increase in its average daily revenue for September.

As of Sunday, it was pegged at almost P3.38 million, a slight increase from the August average of P3.35 million, according to Cruz.

On the first Monday that magnetic tickets were offered, the LRTA posted a revenue of over P5.29 million, primarily because of the stored-value tickets.

Cruz also claimed that security at LRT stations has improved considerably.

Policeman shot dead in Taguig gunfight

A GUNFIGHT between a policeman and a soldier in Taguig on Sunday led to the death of the policeman and serious injuries for the soldier.

The fatality was identified as PO3 Renato Aggasid, 35, a resident of Barangay Western Bicutan, Taguig and assigned to Camp Crame.

Aggasid was declared dead on arrival at a nearby hospital due to gunshot wounds in different parts of the body, investigators said.

The soldier was identified as Sgt. Ricardo Labrador, assigned to J-2 in Camp Aguinaldo. He is now undergoing treatment also for gunshot wounds in different parts of his body.

Witnesses said Labrador went to Aggasid's house on San Francisco Street in Katipunan Village to confront him over a land dispute. This led to a heated argument, investigators said.

The two men drew their service firearms and started firing at each other. However, Labrador was beaten to the draw and was hit first.

But he was able to fire back at Aggasid.

Cabbie found slain after visiting mom

By Philip C. Tubeza

TAXI driver Angelito T. Baydo saw his mother for the last time Sunday afternoon.

Baydo, 35, of Villa Luna, Caloocan City, was found dead, his body riddled with stab wounds, after he visited his mother at a wet market in Barangay Damayan, Frisco in Quezon City, said investigator PO1 Joseph Madrid of the Central Police District-Criminal Investigation Unit.

An unidentified suspect stabbed Baydo 18 times in different parts of the body, Madrid said.

He said Baydo was walking when he was attacked at the corner of San Vicente and Felipe streets in Barangay Damayan around 4:30 p.m. Sunday.

"Baydo came from his mother's stall at the market," Madrid said. "He was on his way home when he was waylaid."

He said Baydo was a known "toughie" and had many enemies. He alleged that Baydo even carried with him a 12-inch knife.

But the knife proved to be useless when Baydo's assailant caught him by surprise.

Madrid said the suspect sneaked up from behind Baydo and stabbed him with an ice pick in the back.

"The victim might have tried to use his long knife and tried to defend himself but the assailant was too quick for him," the investigator said. "The culprit stabbed him several times in the back, and then in the chest."

The suspect escaped. Police later recovered the victim's 12-inch knife near the spot where he fell.

Baydo's friends brought him to the Saint Agnes Hospital but he was declared dead on arrival, Madrid said.

Investigators are trying to find witnesses who might be able to identify Baydo's killer, Madrid added.

Woman slays live-in mate for not defending her

By Jerome Aning

A STORE helper was stabbed dead by his live-in wife who was enraged that he did not defend her enough during an argument with a neighbor in Balut, Tondo, Manila early Sunday night.

Andro Legazpi, a resident of Balut, suffered a deep stab wound in the left side of the torso. He was pronounced dead on arrival at the Tondo Medical Center.

His live-in partner, Rowena Baron, 23, was apprehended by barangay watchmen led by Barangay 144 chair Mauricio Aniban. They turned her over to the Western Police District homicide section.

Homicide investigator PO3 Joey de Ocampo said Baron and neighbor Mercy Suguano had a heated argument late Sunday afternoon in front of Legazpi's house.

Legazpi was informed of the fight while he was tending his mother's store. He went home and tried to part the two women, who were close to exchanging blows.

But Baron, according to PO3 De Ocampo, was incensed because her husband did not defend her against Suguano's taunts. She left and returned around 7:30 p.m., drunk and carrying a kitchen knife.

Neighbors said the couple burst into a loud argument in their house minutes later, after which Legazpi was heard screaming for help. He was rushed to the hospital but it was too late.

His body was brought to the Sanctuary Funeral Homes in Sta. Cruz for autopsy.

When arrested, Baron was still in a daze and kept muttering that she did not intend to kill her husband.

2 Divisoria helpers killed by colleague

By Jerome Aning

POLICE are looking for a market helper who allegedly shot to death two colleagues who were reportedly jealous of him in a market in Divisoria in Tondo, Manila late Sunday night.

Manolito de la Cruz Jr., 19, was shot in the nape while Ariel Capoquian, 18, was shot in the head. Both men were residents of Tondo.

Investigator SPO1 Edgardo Ko of the Western Police District homicide section said De la Cruz died on the spot, but not before blurting out the name of Randy Lopega.

Capoquian was pronounced dead upon arrival at the Gat Andres Bonifacio Memorial Medical Center.

Lopega and the victims were employees of Nilfa Tahup, a stall owner at the Asuncion market in Divisoria. Police said the victims were probably jealous and angry at the suspect because their employer favored him.

SPO1 Ko said that a few days ago, Lopega quit his job after Tahup rejected his demand for a salary raise. But unable to find a new job, Lopega returned and begged to be rehired.

Tahup accepted him on the condition that he would just be treated as an alternate helper and not as a regular employee. SPO1 Ko said Lopega's return caused animosity between him and the victims.

Around 11 p.m. Sunday, Lopega, armed with a gun, entered the store while De la Cruz and Capoquian were arranging merchandise. He allegedly shot them and fled.

At press time, Manila policemen were still tracking down the suspect, who is facing double murder charges. Investigators said he might be trying to return to his province.

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173868

1	SCARY MOVIE 2
2	RUSH HOUR 2
3	PRINCESS DIARIES
4	ORIGINAL SIN
5	KNIGHT'S TALE
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	PUKYUTAN
8	ENEMY AT THE GATES

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522-7161455

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	KNIGHT'S TALE
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5	PRINCESS DIARIES
6	PUKYUTAN
7	ORIGINAL SIN
8	RUSH HOUR 2
9	ENEMY AT THE GATES
10	A.I.

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2	BURLESK QUEEN
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	PRINCESS DIARIES
5	KNIGHT'S TALE
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	ORIGINAL SIN
8	PRINCESS DIARIES
9	SCARY MOVIE 2
10	A.I.
11	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
12	PUKYUTAN

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	ORIGINAL SIN
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	PRINCESS DIARIES
5	RUSH HOUR 2
6	PRINCESS DIARIES
7	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
8	PUKYUTAN
9	PRINCESS DIARIES
10	CROCODILE 2
11	SCARY MOVIE 2
12	BANYO QUEEN

SM MEGAMALL
6331801 • 6329401

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	A.I.
3	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
4	PRINCESS DIARIES
5	ORIGINAL SIN
6	ENEMY AT THE GATES
7	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
8	SCARY MOVIE 2
9	BANYO QUEEN
10	PRINCESS DIARIES
11	PUKYUTAN
12	A KNIGHT'S TALE

SM TUTUBAN
2514302

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
3	PUKYUTAN
4	BANYO QUEEN

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9205452

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	PUKYUTAN
4	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
5	ENEMY AT THE GATES
6	ORIGINAL SIN
7	PRINCESS DIARIES
8	KNIGHT'S TALE
9	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
10	RUSH HOUR 2
11	SCARY MOVIE 2
12	A.I.

SM SOUTHMALL
8066888

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2	KNIGHT'S TALE
3	CLOSED
4	ORIGINAL SIN
5	A.I.
6	ENEMY AT THE GATES
7	BANYO QUEEN
8	PRINCESS DIARIES
9	SCARY MOVIE 2
10	PUKYUTAN

SM GUADALUPE COMM'L
8820905

1	PUKYUTAN
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

SM CEBU
2313876

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	CRAZY BEAUTIFUL
3	BURLESK QUEEN
4	A.I.
5	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	SCARY MOVIE 2

SM ILOILO
3209422

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	CLOSED
3	RUSH HOUR-2
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5	PUKYUTAN
6	ENEMY AT THE GATES
7	CLOSED
8	A.I.

SM PAMPANGA
7128015

1	A.I.
2	KNIGHT'S TALE
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	PUKYUTAN
5	MANO MANO 2
6	BANYO QUEEN

SM SUCAT
8224935

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	ORIGINAL SIN
3	PRINCESS DIARIES
4	BANYO QUEEN

SM DAVAO

1
2
3
4
5
6

SOON TO OPEN 6 STATE-OF-THE-ART MOVIE THEATERS

DIGITAL dts SOUND · DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

AYALA CINEMAS

NOW SHOWING

YOUR 24-HOUR LINK TO ALL AYALA CINEMAS 729 - 7777
reserve seats through www.sureseats.com

All Digital Sound

GLORIETTA 1
formerly QUAD

1	ORIGINAL SIN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	SCARY MOVIE 2
4	ENEMY AT THE GATES

GLORIETTA 4

1	A KNIGHT'S TALE in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2	PRINCESS DIARIES in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	PRINCESS DIARIES THX in DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	THE INVISIBLE CIRCUS (Phil. Premiere) in DTS DIGITAL SOUND Art Film
5	ENEMY AT THE GATES in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6	ORIGINAL SIN in DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7	RUSH HOUR 2 in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

GREENBELT

1	A KNIGHT'S TALE in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
2	PRINCESS DIARIES in SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3	ORIGINAL SIN in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
4	MARTIN NIEVERA LIVE! SEPT. 27,28 & 29—8PM Onstage

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1	PRINCESS DIARIES THX in DSD/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
2	ORIGINAL SIN in DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	A KNIGHT'S TALE in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	ENEMY AT THE GATES in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	PRINCESS DIARIES in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DDS)	A KNIGHT'S TALE
2 (SDDS)	ORIGINAL SIN
3 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4 GOLD (DTS)	A.I.
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
6 GOLD (SDDS)	ORIGNAL SIN
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
8 [illegible]	BANYO QUEEN
9 [illegible]	RUSH HOUR 2
10 [illegible]	SCARY MOVIE 2

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	
2	
3 (DTS)	
4	BANYO QUEEN
5	BURLESK QUEEN
6 (DTS)	
Golden Pearl THX	

Masagana CINEMAX 1-2 & 3
(Kalaw) tel 536.4315

1 (DOLBY)	ORIGINAL SIN
2 (DTS)	
3	BURLESK QUEEN

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 831.6603

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1	ORIGINAL SIN
2	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
3	PUKYUTAN
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	PRINCESS DIARIES
5	MANO-MANO

Metropolis
(Alabang) tel 543.4001

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	BURLESK QUEEN
3	ORIGINAL SIN
4	BANYO QUEEN
5	RESERVE
6	RESERVE
7	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
8	PUKYUTAN

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) Tel. 7053152 - 55

PRINCESS DIARIES

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	CATS & DOGS
2	RADYO

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	BURLESK QUEEN
3	PUKYUTAN

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	BURLESK QUEEN
A	PUKYUTAN

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	RESERVE
3	MANO MANO 2
4	

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	PUKYUTAN
5	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
6	BANYO QUEEN
7 (DTS)	ORIGINAL SIN
8 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
9 (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2

Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3761

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
3	MANO MANO 2
4 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
5	PUKYUTAN
6 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
7 (DTS)	ORIGINAL SIN
8	RESERVE
9	RESERVE

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	ORIGINAL SIN
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	PUKYUTAN
4	RESERVE
5 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
6	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
7 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
8	RESERVE

Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
3 (DTS)	ORIGINAL SIN
4	PUKYUTAN
5 (SDDS)	PRINCESS DIARIES

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
Lords	BANYO QUEEN
Jennet	PUKYUTAN

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	PUKYUTAN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	ORIGINAL SIN
4	

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	ORIGINAL SIN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	PUKYUTAN
4	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
5	BANYO QUEEN

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2	PUKYUTAN
3	ORIGINAL SIN
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	BURLESK QUEEN

Baclaran LRT
LRT CINEMA
tel 512.0115

1 (DOLBY)	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2	PUKYUTAN
3	RESERVE

Berma
tel 879-2029 or 30

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2	BANYO QUEEN

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	RESERVED
2	ORIGINAL SIN
3	RESERVED
4	

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2	BANYO QUEEN
3 (DTS)	PRINCESS DIARIES

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	ORIGINAL SIN
2 (DTS)	BANYO QUEEN
3 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
4	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) Tel. (049) 411-1146

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
3 (DTS)	ORIGINAL SIN
4	BANYO QUEEN

Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	ANIMAL
2	A.I.
3	SOON TO OPEN
4	SOON TO OPEN

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	ORIGINAL SIN
2	RESERVED
3	BANYO QUEEN
4 (DTS)	BORLESK QUEEN

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	ORIGINAL SIN
3 (DTS)	PUKYUTAN
4	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
5	MANO MANO 2

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	PUKYUTAN
3	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 536.5101

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	ORIGINAL SIN
3	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	PAREHAS ANG LABAN
2	CROCODILE
3	VENUS

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	MANO MANO 2
2	ORIGINAL SIN
3	BANYO QUEEN

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	PUKYUTAN
2 (DTS)	RESERVE

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	PUKYUTAN

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
2	PUKYUTAN
3	MANO MANO 2

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

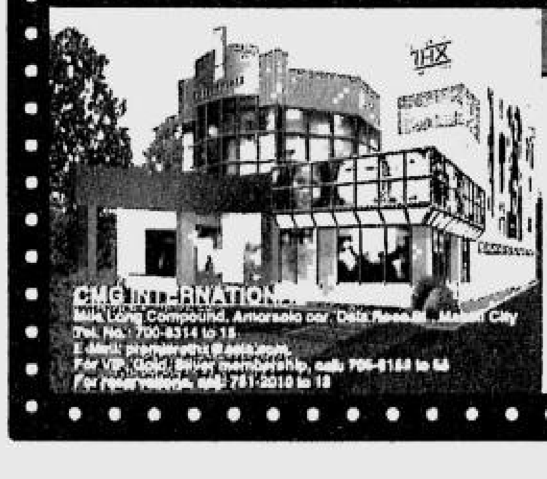
1	CROCODILE 2
2	KNIGHT'S TALE
3	BANYO QUEEN
4	MANO MANO 2

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	MANO MANO 2
3	BANYO QUEEN
4 (DTS EX)	ENEMY AT THE GATES

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS



PREMIERE CINEMA THX

NOW SHOWING

Walt Disney PICTURES PRESENTS

THE PRINCESS DIARIES

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

e-mail: htcs@nessia.mnl.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

NOW SHOWING
State-Of-The-Art-Cinemas

GALLERIA
632 9115-16 / 633-7641 loc. 270

1 THX	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5	ORIGINAL SIN
6	A KNIGHT'S TALE
7	RUSH HOUR 2
8	A.I.
9	BANYO QUEEN
10	ORIGINAL SIN

ERMITA
536-7809 TO 12

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	A KNIGHT'S TALE
4	RUSH HOUR 2
5	BANYO QUEEN
6	ORIGINAL SIN
7	ENEMY AT THE GATES

NOVALICHES
935-3229 TO 31

1	PUKYUTAN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	RESERVE
4	PRINCESS DIARIES
5	A KNIGHT'S TALE
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	ORIGINAL SIN
8	ENEMY AT THE GATES

IMUS
(046) 471-8188

1	A KNIGHT'S TALE
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	BANYO QUEEN
4	ORIGINAL SIN
5	PRINCESS DIARIES
6	PUKYUTAN

BACOLOD
(034) 441-0453

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	A.I.
3	SCARY MOVIE 2
4	CRAZY/BEAUTIFUL
5	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
6	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN

SOON TO OPEN

METRO EAST
SAN FERNANDO PAMPANGA
ILOILO

THX dts SDDS DOLBY DOLBY STEREO

SMART MONEY ACCEPTED AT ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD GALLERIA AND ERMITA.

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101

ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	BANYO QUEEN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	PRINCESS DIARIES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	ORIGINAL SIN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	A KNIGHT'S TALE
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	PUKYUTAN
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	ORIGINAL SIN
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	PANINDA/TEASER
ODEON	ORIGINAL SIN
ODEON-2	BORLESK QUEEN
ROBEN	PUKYUTAN
TANDEM-1	SEX MEDUSA
TANDEM-2	SEX EDUCATION
TIMES	DUNGEON... / DRIVER

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	PUKYUTAN
REMAR	PUKYUTAN
REMAR-2	BURLESK QUEEN

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	BANYO QUEEN
B	MANO MANO 2
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	ORIGINAL SIN
CINEMA-2	PRINCESS DIARIES

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
CINEMA-2	MANO MANO 2
CINEMA-3	PUKYUTAN
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	RUSH HOUR 2
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	PRINCESS DIARIES
CINEMA-6	A.I.
CINEMA-7	BURLESK QUEEN
CINEMA-8	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	PRINCESS DIARIES
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	A KNIGHT'S TALE
CINEMA-12	SCARY MOVIE 2
CINEMA-14	ORIGINAL SIN
CINEMA-15	BANYO QUEEN

LORES

CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED

POWER PLANT CINEMA

CINEMA-1	PRINCESS DIARIES
CINEMA-2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
CINEMA-3	PRINCESS DIARIES
CINEMA-4	ORIGINAL SIN
CINEMA-5	ENEMY AT THE GATES
CINEMA-6	PRINCESS DIARIES

UNIWIDE METROMALL

(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	SOON TO OPEN
CINEMA-2	SOON TO OPEN
CINEMA-4	SOON TO OPEN

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	THE STRANGER
CINEMA-2	AMBISYOSA
CINEMA-4	THALIA

MISALUCHA

Primeline artists busy this September

FRESH from her successful concert at the Araneta Coliseum last Sept. 8, Lani Misalucha leads her fellow Primeline artists in whipping up a musical storm this month.

On Sept. 28 and 29, Lani tries something different when she guests in the two-night concert of local rock band Wolfgang at the Music Museum.

Lani is also busy preparing for her new album and rehearsing for the forthcoming US tour of Freestyle, where she will be the guest artist. The shows will be held in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Lani also continues her hosting stint on GMA's Sunday noontime show, "SOP."

Other Primeline artists are busy this month.

Karylle heads a new portion on "SOP" titled "Time to Shine," to promote her debut album of the same title.

If you go for band music, catch the performances of Aliya Parcs, Jed Maddela and Radha with the Dye Vest band at Ratsky's Malate on Mondays, Strumm's Jupiter on Tuesdays, Dish at Rockwell's Power Plant Mall on Fridays and Conservatory of Peninsula Manila on Saturdays.

The group will also perform at the Jack Daniels anniversary celebration on Sept. 26 at the RCBC Plaza in Makati.

Radha, meanwhile, is busy preparing for the forthcoming "Jam Himig Handog" competition of ABS-CBN, where she will interpret the song, "You Can Make It Happen," by Dodjie Simon.

Tootsie Guevarra is busy with various TV guestings. She just received a gold record award for her album, "Sa Puso Ko." The second single culled from the album is the title track.

Lani Asanin, who created a stir when she admitted to having posed nude for the German edition of Playboy, is still seen every Thursday on "Eat Bulaga," where she is featured in the dance portion, "Oh, la, la!"

On Saturdays, Lana stars with Bong Revilla Jr. in the GMA 7 sitcom, "Idol Ko si Kap."

Nancy Castilione, one of the newest members of the Primeline family, is also busy with various TV guestings like sitcoms and variety shows, where she gets to display her musical and dancing talents.

ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Grim reality transformed by hero's love in 'Baran'

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

THE 2001 Focus on Asia Fukuoka International Film Festival got off to a rousing start last Friday, Sept. 14 at the solaria Hotel in Fukuoka City with the screening of the opening film from Iran, **Majid Majidi**'s "Baran."

Only a few days before, on Sept. 10, Majidi's latest film had won the Grand Prix at the Montreal Film Festival, affirming once more the astuteness of the Fukuoka filmfest'' Director General, **Tadao Sato**, in spotting truly outstanding movies on the Asian circuit.

The Montreal award put greater pressure on Majidi's film to live up to the heightened expectations of the Fukuoka filmfest audience, but the movie did not disappoint them. It was an excellent choice for the festival's opening film, and set a high mark for the other festival movies to live up to.

"Baran" is set in a construction site in Tehran, where some of the laborers are Afghan refugees. This is prohibited by government regulations, so they are forever hiding when inspectors come to check up on the progress of the construction.

One of the Afghan laborers, **Najaf**, breaks his leg in a fall, so his family is faced with starvation—until his young son, **Rahmat**, is allowed to take his place. Unfortunately, the boy is too weak to work as a laborer, so he's assigned kitchen duties.

This angers 17-year-old **Latif**, an Iranian lad who used to perform those light functions but is now forced to work as a laborer. Peevishly, he keeps thinking of ways to make Rahmat's life in the construction site miserable.

Until, one day, he makes a stunning discovery: the boy Rahmat turns out to be a young woman with long hair! The heretofore nasty Latif falls in love for the first time in his life, and he is instantly transformed.

From here on in, he lives only to make "Rahmat" happy, or at least to make her difficult life bearable. Trouble is, he can't let on that he knows her secret, so he must help her without her knowing that he is her benefactor.

As the film progresses, the viewer is stunned by the totality of Latif's transformation. He gives "Rahmat" all of his savings, and even sells his all-important identification card to raise even more money for her and her impoverished family.

Later, he learns that her real name is Baran, which means "rain." True enough, his love for her has served like the beneficience of rain on his heretofore arid soul. It is the depth of his unspoken love that gives this film its special beauty, force and poignancy.

The lead actor, **Hossein Abedini**, is an excellent performer who perfectly captures Latif's combination of initially narrow mind and deep emotion. But it is filmmaker Majidi's heart that beats throughout the film, giving it a charged realism and a similarly dynamic artistry that makes it deserve the accolades that it is beginning to reap.

Many love stories gloss over the harshness of life to make viewers' hearts soar to the desired romantic heights. "Baran" takes another, more vivid tack: it roots its story on rigorous and even harsh and dehumanizing reality, and yet it is able to transform this grim reality with the rinsing purity of its flawed hero's love.

In fact, this realistic approach makes its love story even more touching because it doesn't happen in a facile fashion, but is literally wrenched out of a seemingly loveless universe.

The film's "transformation" love story isn't its only highlight. The film is further ennobled by perceptive insights, communicated visually rather than verbally, that make us understand, not just the lives of the movie's forsaken characters, but life itself.

This is a major achievement that makes "Baran" one of the finest films we've seen thus far this year. Art film buffs should try to get it shown in Manila soonest.

Women who dare to break free

DOLLYWOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal

I ENJOYED myself immensely when "Sis" invited me to be one of their guests in their episode on independent women (to be aired Sept. 26 on GMA 7 at 10:30 a.m.).

Pinky Amador, **Jackie Castillejo**, **Georgina Sandico** and I compared notes like high school girls.

Even **Janice de Belen** was constantly being ribbed by her sis **Gelli** because Janice has now reclaimed her freedom. Her bond with ex-hubby John Estrada had turned into bondage so she had to break loose.

In between takes, I was teasing Janice and Gelli about the time when we interviewed Menudo for my mom's show. Gelli was still painfully shy back then. The sisters said, "At least we can say we met **Ricky Martin** before he became really big and we have pictures to prove it! But at that time we were all crazy about **Robby Rosa**. *'Di natin akalain si* Ricky *pala ang sisikat*!"

After the taping I cornered *Direk* **Louie Ignacio** about the report that "Sis" is a brainchild of **Eric Quizon** and he just pirated the idea. *Direk* said: "I don't know what they are trying to insinuate but I'm very sure that

I've had this concept for years. I would rather concentrate on making 'Sis' even better than be affected by all those accusations. Ratings-wise, we are improving so I'll just keep doing my thing. Let them do their thing."

I had the chance to catch up with my *kumareng* Janice. It was so good to see her finally take control of her life. She has not only survived, she has prevailed. Janice has never been this strong. As she puts it, "I don't feel the need to cry anymore. After a while of waiting in vain for him to change, I just got sick of it. I had to get out before I ended up not knowing who I was and what I wanted."

Seize the day, Sisters!!

Birthday eve

I SPENT the eve of my birthday in the newly opened Wansui Bar and Restaurant. Long time friends **Tirso** and **Lyn Cruz** invited me to the affair. I had a blast with their other guests—**Lorna Tolentino**, **Angel Aquino**, **Dulce**, **Christopher** and **Sandy de Leon**, **Pinky de Leon** and my good friend from UCLA **Francis Aguas**, who now heads Ateneo de Manila's theater arts dept. It felt like they were doing a New Year's countdown as they checked their cell phones to see if it was midnight already.

I was deeply touched by their sweet gesture of hugging me as soon as the clock struck 12 and they even brought out a yummy *pandan* cake for me.

Thanks to all my friends in and out of the biz (you know who you are) who texted me as early as the eve of my birthday. A mushy woman like me would not have it any other way.

Special thanks to Francis for leading my cheering section. And to Pipo and Lyn for always being like family. But of course my real celebration will be in my official headquarters, Watering Hole at the Shang Edsa Carpark Bldg.

I must say that this is my most peaceful birthday ever. I guess it's true that in order to find yourself, sometimes you have to lose your way. And the best part about it is that I also found the Lord on the way back to sanity.

Boyet the Millionaire

STILL on the Wansui opening, Pipo, Boyet and I were joking around about Boyet's hit game show, "Who Wants to be a Millionaire."

Pipo said, "Boyet used to be known as best actor. Now he's tagged as Millionaire. Wherever he goes, people come up to him wanting to join the contest. They forget all about his acting talent. Ha-ha!"

I said, "Boyet, you mean you have no time to do movies anymore? I guess they pay you millions also to host that show, huh? You're **Brad Pitt**'s look-alike *pa naman*."

Boyet laughed. "ArmPit, maybe. No *naman*, they pay me just enough. I enjoy doing the show. We are now on the air five days a week. **Vilma** (**Santos**) and I can't resume shooting for 'Dekada' until all the death threats she's getting are gone. It ruins the momentum when you stop shooting for a while."

I turned serious. "Won't you be affected if another station comes up with another game show to pit against your show?"

Boyet said, "The nice thing about our show is that it's like a telenovela. All the elements are there. Drama, comedy, suspense, triumph, defeat, so how can anyone else beat that?"

For feedback, e-mail wateringhole2000@yahoo.com

The Corrs performs in additional shows

GOOD news for all the fans of the Corrs. Due to insistent public demand, The Corrs will perform for two nights, Sept. 29 and 30, 8:30 p.m. at the Araneta Coliseum, Cubao, Quezon City.

"The Corrs Live in Manila" is presented by Nokia with Jag Jeans, Continental Tires and FWD Magazine, supported by Strepsils, MTV Philippines, Warner Music Philippines and E! Entertainment. There are limited tickets left for sale at SM Ticketnet Outlets.

For those who already have tickets to the show, please be reminded that all tickets should be validated at the Ticketnet Main Box Office located at the Araneta Coliseum near the Red Gate. For inquiries, call 911-5555, 893-0026 or 892-0884.

The Corrs are three sisters and one brother—vocalist Andrea, drummer Caroline, violinist Sharon and guitarist keyboard player Jim—who have certainly come a long way from the upstairs bedroom in their parents' home in Dundalk on the Irish border, where they first got together to play in 1991.

The big break for the Corrs came when Grammy-award winning producer David Foster gave them an audition in New York.

Foster took personal charge of their first album, "Forgiven, Not Forgotten."

MTRCB RATING R RESTRICTED
Strictly for ADULTS.
No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.

"The car, truck & motorcycle stunts in the movie were performed by professional stunt drivers using proper safety gear in the presence of emergency ambulance & medical equipment. They should not be emulated nor done in the streets. Be SMART, DRIVE SAFE and STAY LEGAL."

FEEL THE NEED FOR SPEED!

SOUNDTRACK IN STORES
JA RULE SCARFACE FAITH EVANS
LIMP BIZKIT R.KELLY
DMX METHOD MAN REDMAN

PAUL WALKER VIN DIESEL
MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ
JORDANA BREWSTER

THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS

POWERED BY
MOTOLITE

united international pictures
VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES

OPENS SEPT.26

POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

1 PRINCESS DIARIES - GP 1:20, 3:45, 6:10, 8:35	2 A KNIGHT'S TALE - P 13 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40	3 PRINCESS DIARIES - GP 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:45, 10:10
4 ORIGINAL SIN - R 18 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50	5 ENEMY AT THE GATES - R 18 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00	6 PRINCESS DIARIES - GP 11:40, 2:05, 4:30

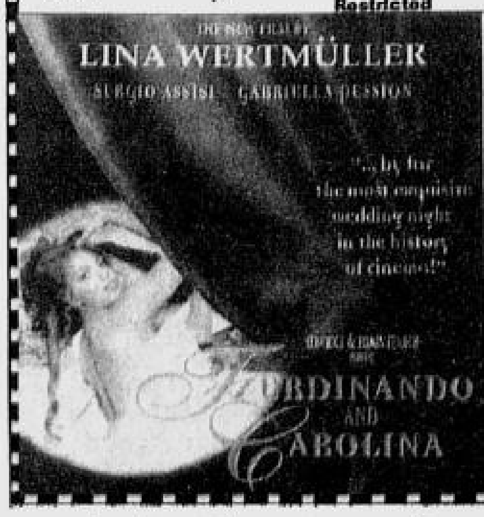
Matinee: P80. Mon.-Fri. 11:10 am to 4:45 pm Screenings, Free Seating.

AYALA CINEMAS
ARTFILM . GLORIETTA 4 Art Film
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ R Restricted
Strictly for ADULTS.
No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.

A MUST SEE!
CAMERON DIAZ SHINES IN THIS FILM!
THE INVISIBLE CIRCUS
Jordana Brewster Christopher Eccleston
& Cameron Diaz

Based on Jennifer Egan's first novel, follows the journey of eighteen-year-old Phoebe, who travels to Europe in the late 1970s to find out what had caused the death of her sister, Faith, several years earlier while traveling there with her boyfriend, Wolf. On her journey of discovery, Phoebe retraces Faith's trail from San Francisco to Paris, and finally to Portugal to the very cliff side village where Faith had committed suicide -- but not before experiencing a bad LSD trip and sleeping with her dead sister's boyfriend first. It's a haunting tale that interweaves death, mystery, memory and loss. But more than that, it delves into the fathomless pith of the '60s -- a generation whose dreamers indulged in ideals that seemed to turn the world, and their own lives, upside-down and inside-out.

AYALA CINEMAS
ARTFILM . GLORIETTA 4 Art Film
OPENS SEPT. 26 (WED.)
MTRCB RATING ▶ R Restricted
Strictly for ADULTS.
No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.



Philippine Premiere
FERDINANDO & CAROLINA
The life and times of Italy's King Ferdinando are played for laughs in this comic historical piece directed by controversial director Lina Wertmuller. On his death bed in the 1820s, King Ferdinando I of Naples tries to escape the ghosts of his bloody kingship by remembering his younger days, when he was allowed to go hunting and have fun, and inventing love games. Then he was obliged to marry Maria Carolina of Austria, daughter of Empress Maria Theresa, in a political marriage: unexpectedly, they became happy lovers, until court power games divided them, and a different historical season arrived.
Language: Italian w/ English sub-titles
WARNING! The film is suitable for adults only due to strong sexual images, pervasive nudity, violence and language.

zed
Is your future going to be a comedy or a drama?
Find out with a Tarot card reading from zed.
Available exclusively to SMART Gold, SMART Buddy and Talk 'N Text subscribers. ₱2.50 per Tarot reading. For keywords of other zed services, type in KEYS and send to 288.
To find out your tarot reading for today:
1 Type in keyword. Ex. TAROT 2 Send to 288. 3 You will receive tarot reading.

THE POWER TO LIVE THE LIFE YOU CHOOSE.

SMART **zed**™

I Say a Little Prayer from "My Best Friend's Wedding"
TONE SAYALIL

Brand New Day
Sting
TONE BRANDNEW

King of My Castle
Wamdue Project
TONE KINGOFMY

Someday
Sugar Ray
TONE SUMDAY

Friends' Theme
The Rembrandts
TONE FRIENDS

One Last Cry
Brian McKnight
TONE 1LASTCRY

I Put a Spell On You
Sonique
TONE IPUT

Love Me For a Reason
Boyzone
TONE LUV4RISN

Pagdating ng Panahon
Aiza Seguerra
TONE PAGDATING

I Try
Macy Gray
TONE ITRY

Are You Gonna Go My Way
Lenny Kravitz
TONE AREYOUGO

Back at One
Brian McKnight
TONE BACKAT1

Incomplete
Sisqo
TONE INCOMPLETE

Close To You
Carpenters
TONE CLOSE2U

Love Of My Life
Brian McKnight
TONE LOVEOFMY

We Will Rock You
Queen
TONE ROCKYOU

Butterfly
Crazy Town
TONE BUTTERFLY

Breathe
Prodigy
TONE BREATHE

Holler
Spicegirls
TONE HOLLER

Satisfaction
Rolling Stones
TONE SATISFAC

I'm Like a Bird
Nelly Furtado
TONE IMLIKEA

Lady Marmalade
Christina Aguilera
TONE MARMALADE

Teenage Dirtbag
Wheatus
TONE TEENAGE

It Wasn't Me
Shaggy
TONE WASNTME

Clint EastWood
Gorillaz
TONE CLINTEAST

Hop to the latest, hippest ring tones.

Just let your old ring tones croak. Download a new ring tone from SMART zed. With all the latest tunes to choose from, you're sure to find just the right one for your celfone. So get these 'ribit'-ing ring tones today. C'mon, hop to it!

How to download ring tone:

TONE MARMALADE
Type in TONE <keyword>
Ex: TONE MARMALADE

288
Send to 288.

RINGTONE RECEIVED
Save upon receiving ring tone.

Ring tones are supported by selected Nokia handsets. ₱12.00 for every successful download.

SMART

Simply Amazing!

Available through:
SMART GOLD
Buddy

To get a list of keywords for other SMART zed services, type KEYS and send to 288.

For more info, visit www.smart.com.ph

MOTOLITE
EXPRESS HATID
843-1111
Available in Metro Manila only

TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 25, 2001
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
B1
BUSINESS
RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ▣ CORRIE S. NARISMA, Assistant Editor

SOCOMEC SICON UPS
Uninterrupted power for workstations and servers
520VA - 6KVA
Call ICS for a FREE brochure!
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC.
Tel. 727-3801 Website: www.ics.com.ph

T-bill rates rise across the board

BY CLARISSA S. BATINO

YIELDS of treasury bills went up across the board yesterday by more than 10 basis points for each tenor even as the Bureau of Treasury decided to cap the increase in rates by rejecting unreasonably high bids.

The 91-day treasury bill rate, the government's benchmark borrowing rate, rose by 11 basis points to 9.577 percent while, longer-dated debt notes went up by 13.8 basis points to 11.767 percent for the six-month treasuries and by 12.5 basis points to 12.669 percent for the one-year instruments.

National Treasurer Sergio Edeza said yesterday's increase in rates was already the most that the government would allow.

"We see no reason for rates to move up anymore next week except the greed of the market. If at all, the market should discount the expected cut in US interest rates next week," Edeza said.

The increase in treasury bill rates was expected following the decision of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas last week not to cut interest rates.

The higher-than-expected budget deficit as of August also boosted the resolve of the fixed-income market to push rates higher since it signaled the need of the government for more cash.

Had the Treasury decided to give a full award on the 182- and 364-day notes, the rates for the six-month instruments would have gone up by as much as 48 points and the one-year notes by as much as 34 points.

The government borrows P4 billion from the private sector weekly through the auction of treasury bills and another P3 billion from the sale of treasury bonds.

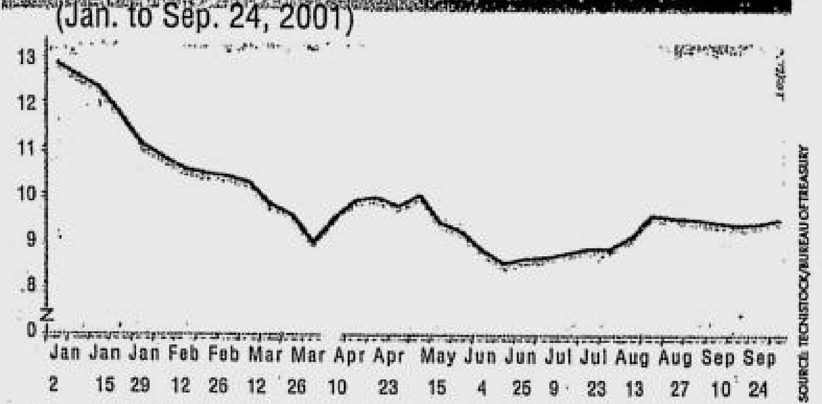
Of the P4-billion weekly treasury bill auction, one-fourth is reserved for the 91-day notes and the rest is split between the longer-dated instruments. Yesterday, the government only accepted P500 million each in offers for the six-month and the one-year treasuries.

"The offers we rejected were unreasonable because we have sufficient cash. The market should reassess the spreads they are charging the government," Edeza said.

The national treasurer pointed

T-BILL/ B2

91-day Treasury bill rates
(Jan. to Sep. 24, 2001)

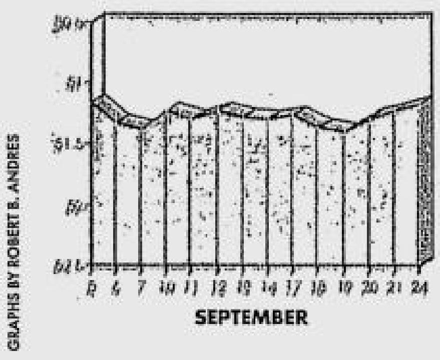


SOURCE: TECNISTOCK/BUREAU OF TREASURY

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO - DOLLAR



GRAPHS BY ROBERT B. ANDRES

Peso-Dollar Rate

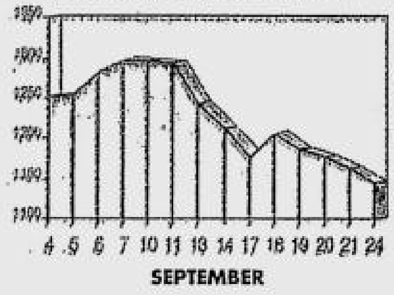
P 51.185 = $1
As of 5 p.m.,
Sept. 24, 2001

¥ 116.78 = $1
As of 5 p.m.,
Sept. 21, 2001

GOLD:$289.50/290.50
per ounce Hong Kong,
Sept. 24, 2001

STOCK MARKET

PSE Composite Index



(See stock market report on Page B4)

Shares fall 1.5% to 3-year low

SHARE prices fell 1.5 percent to a three-year low yesterday with a looming United States attack on Afghanistan sparking concern over the prospects of the domestic economy.

"People are figuring out how this will end and how this will affect the US economy. In the meantime, it will be carried over to other Asian countries," said Harry Liu of Summit Securities Inc.

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index lost 17.76 points to close at 1,145.09, a three-year low.

Turnover fell to 400 million shares worth P365 million compared with 433 million shares worth P445 million traded on Friday.

Fears of a global recession have hit Filipino firms saddled with substantial dollar debt, said Enrique Sta. Ana of Vickers Ballas Securities Philippines Inc.

"Everyone's jittery because we still have that (fear of a) global conflict and the sheer absence of information on what's going to happen next. Uncertainty causes everyone to stay

SHARES/ B2

Napocor reinsurance bidding set Thursday

STATE firm National Power Corp. yesterday announced that the joint committee created to oversee the reinsurance of $6.5 billion worth of assets has set the bidding on Thursday.

The public is welcome to watch the proceedings at the Napocor Diliman headquarters where the bidding will be conducted at 5 p.m., according to the announcement.

A viewing room has been set up to accommodate as many as 100 viewers to ensure the transparency of the process, it added.

Earlier this month, President Macapagal-Arroyo signed Memorandum Order No. 30 creating the joint committee after a dispute broke out between Napocor and the Government Service Insurance System.

GSIS president Winston Garcia and Napocor president Jesus Alcordo have been at odds over the past weeks following the latter's desire for the power firm to have an active participation in hiring the reinsurance broker.

Garcia maintained that the GSIS had the

NAPOCOR/ B2

Finest Selection

Xtraordinary choices.

2002 FIFA World Cup Korea Japan
FUJI XEROX
Official Partner

Xerox printers. Xpect more.

You'll be spoilt for choice when it comes to our printers. Basic, value-for-money printers for personal use. Office network printers with numerous awards to their names. Colour printers that redefine the standard of colour printing. Multifunction systems that enhance document flow by allowing you to print, scan, copy and bind simultaneously. And high-end production systems with on-demand and customized printing capabilities. Whatever your printing needs, there's only one choice – Xerox.

DocuPrint N2825
- 28ppm laser print speed
- 32MB standard memory
- 1200 x 1200dpi
- True PostScript 3, PCL6 and PCL5e emulation
- Total Printer Management software
- Standard 10/100BaseT connectivity

DocuPrint C621 Laser Printer/Copier/Scanner
- 6ppm colour, 26ppm b/w print speed
- 600dpi x 8bit full colour scanning
- 1200 x 1200dpi
- High quality oil-less printout
- Duplex printing up to A3
- 100Base-Tx/100Base-T network card

Document Centre 350
- 35ppm print speed
- Duplex printing capability
- 56 sheets/min scan speed
- 3sec fax transmission speed
- Paperless fax delivery
- Compatible with 100Base-Tx

DocuTech 65
- 65ppm print speed
- 65ipm scan speed
- DigiPath Scan & Makeready Software
- Up to 600 x 1200dpi (PostScript)
- Adobe PostScript 3, PCL5e and TIFF
- Powerful Document Services Platform (DocuSP) Controller
- Onboard Variable Information Printing (VIPP)

THE DOCUMENT COMPANY
FUJI XEROX

Philippine Fuji Xerox Corporation • ***Head Office***: 19th Floor 6788 Ayala Avenue, Makati City 1229 Trunk Line: (63-2) 886-7075 to 94 • ***Nationwide Sales Offices***: **Metro Manila:** Printer Hotline (02) 886-7175 • **North Luzon:** Angeles: (045) 332-1011 • Baguio: (074) 4428261 / 3043238 • Olongapo: (047) 222-6449 La Union: (072) 242-4092 / 888-3134 • **South Luzon:** Alabang / Laguna: (02) 809-4519 • Cavite: (046) 438-2995 / 438-6442 • Bicol: (052) 480-6375 / 820-6088 • **Visayas:** Cebu: (032) 254-6792 / 254-6793 • Iloilo: (033) 335-1044 / 508-5991 • Tacloban: (053) 325-6032 / 321-2330 • **Mindanao:** Davao: (082) 234-6714 / 234-9220 • Butuan: (085) 225-3675 • Cagayan de Oro: (08822) 721-344 / (088) 856-1896 • Ozamis: (088) 521-0492 • Zamboanga: (062) 991-2679 • Cotabato: (064) 421-3358 • General Santos: (083) 553-3507

With Nationwide Full Service Network

Xerox, The Document Company and the stylised X are registered trademarks/trademarks.

Website: www.fujixerox.com.ph

Shares fall 1.5% to 3-year low

(From page B1)

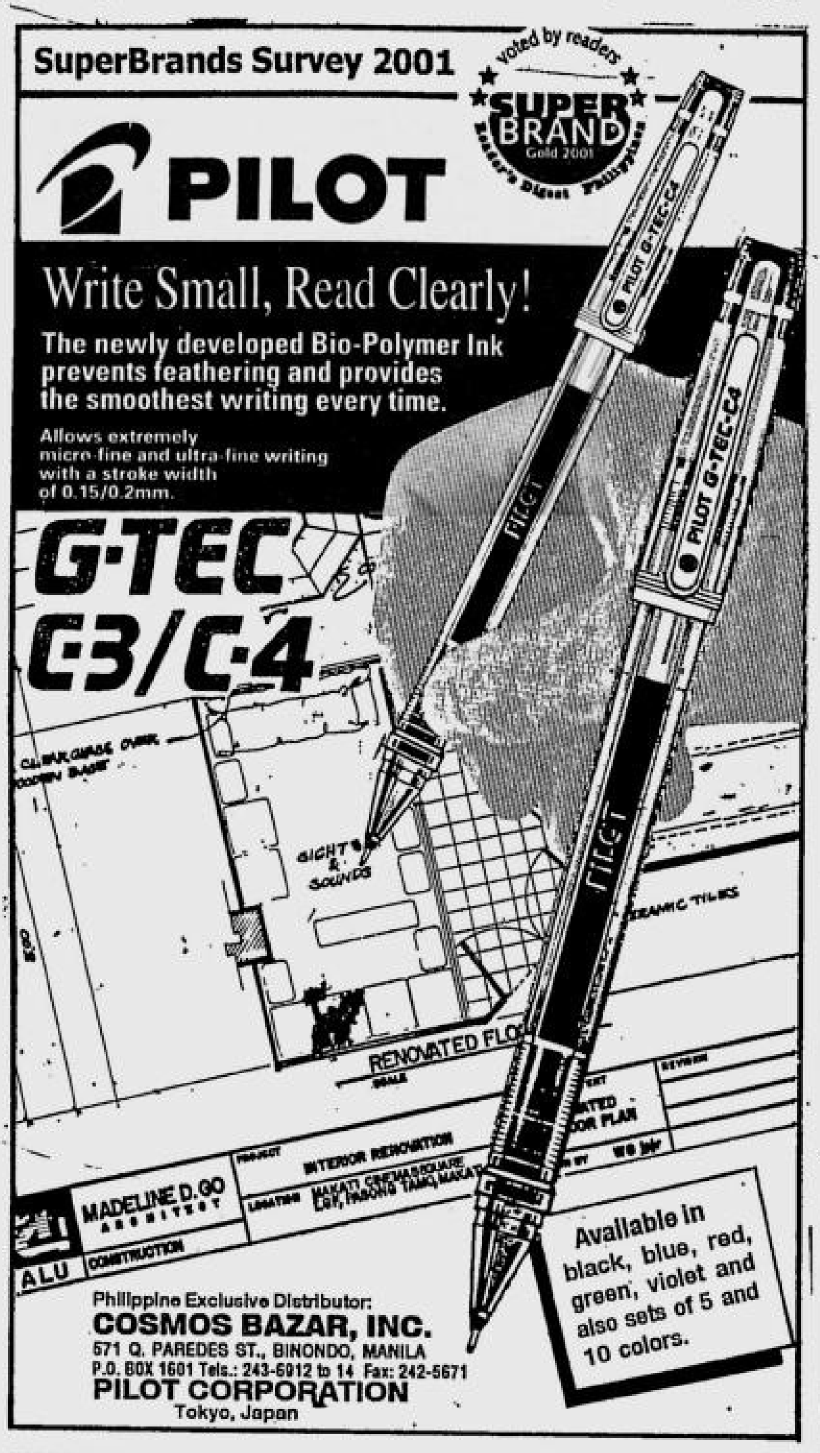
out," he said.

Manila Electric Co. "A" shares fell P1 to P27 while the "B" shares slipped P2.50 to P35.50.

San Miguel Corp. "A" lost 50 centavos to P38.50 while the "B" shares were unchanged at P50.

Ayala Land Inc. gave up 10 centavos at P4.25 while Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. bucked the trend by gaining P5 to P485 on a technical rebound.

AFP


SuperBrands Survey 2001

PILOT

Write Small, Read Clearly!

The newly developed Bio-Polymer Ink prevents feathering and provides the smoothest writing every time.

Allows extremely micro-fine and ultra-fine writing with a stroke width of 0.15/0.2mm.

G-TEC C-3/C-4

Available in black, blue, red, green, violet and also sets of 5 and 10 colors.

Philippine Exclusive Distributor:
COSMOS BAZAR, INC.
571 Q. PAREDES ST., BINONDO, MANILA
P.O. BOX 1601 Tels.: 243-6012 to 14 Fax: 242-5671
PILOT CORPORATION
Tokyo, Japan

Go jump in the leak

I THINK the Supreme Court just stumbled upon a swell idea. It is called "leaking." I am sure that "leaking" can change the way the Supreme Court makes decision dramatically.

Justices waste time on little things like figuring out what's right or wrong. With "leaking," they only have to figure out what's popular. That's it, case is closed.

"Leaking" makes their job easy. They don't have to think of the merits of a case. Doing so only forces them to use wisdom. Worse, they may also use their conscience.

After all, the Supreme Court is just our last stop in this democratic train ride before we get to far-flung stations of chaos and anarchy where there are even no toilets.

As it is, without the benefit of its new discovery, the Surpreme Court can make a decision, which may or may not be popular. It's a hit or miss thing. This is bad.

There's always a 50-50 chance people will not like it. In a 50-50 chance in our country, as you know, some people will always insist on getting the hyphen.

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

* * *

ANYWAY, the Supreme Court discovered the power of "leaking" just recently. It seems one of its members leaked to media and to the Palace the name of a justice.

It so happens the justice would write the draft decision on a case involving the plunder case of this cute administration against a man named Band . . . Wrist Band.

His lawyer, former Sen. Rene Saguisag, questioned the constitutionality of the plunder law before the Supreme Court. This cute administration said he must be crazy.

That justice is the ponente in the same case. Usually, the identity of the ponente is top secret. For a reason! It assures the ponente does not get pressure from either side.

But somebody just cannot leave the ponente alone. A member of the Supreme Court reportedly leaked the ponente's identity to everybody except the ponente.

Word is, the leak was made by somebody who is close to the Palace. What made him do it? Maybe he had enough of the thing called "integrity" of the Supreme Court.

* * *

WHATEVER, our hero was said to be the same justice who spread the rumor among the Supreme Court justices that Wrist Band already resigned at the height of Edsa II.

So what happened then? Well, wanting to prevent a possible crisis of leadership, the Supreme Court hurried up a document declaring Wrist Band's position as vacant.

Such a declaration only hastened the takeover of the presidency by then Vice President who is now known as Gloriaetta. In short, it became a fait accompli.

That is simply French (i.e. the language) for something vaguely translated as "eat your heart out, because now I got it, and nobody can stop me, not even Osama."

When our hero did his heroic act of leaking, an overwhelming number of people, calling themselves "civil society," unabashedly, at that, jumped upon the same leak.

They called the ponente all sorts of names. They also accused him of all sorts of crimes. The biggest of them was a lawyer who used to work for the government.

* * *

NOW the Supreme Court can tell which side is popular among the powerful and the influential groups, numbering a couple of thousands, in a nation of 80 million people.

You see, the Supreme Court en banc recently heard the oral arguments of both sides in the Wrist Band cases about the constitutionality of the plunder law.

Meaning, both sides must now submit their respective memoranda. It's when the Supreme Court does the real work away from the public limelight. Secretly, in short!

For that's the way it has always been. We leave the justices alone to arrive at a decision. Whatever it is, we also just have to respect it. All right, except the lawyers!

Rest assured that, with the leak, justice can now be served like it's just another one of those popularity surveys. You know—the same thing commissioned by politicos.

For now the case is attracting political partisanship. The Palace is surely into it. You think the enemies of this cute administration will just stand idly by, ha, Bombay?

* * *

SO now Sen. Aquilino Pimentel is asking Chief Justice Hilario Davide to investigate the report of a leak coming as it is from a member of the Supreme Court itself. And why not?

It may be a valuable innovation in the workings of the Supreme Court, because now the court can always lean on what's popular, but let me tell you that it stinks.

Right away it says something about the integrity of the Supreme Court. And that is, it has none. Why would anybody leak the ponente? To put pressure on him, what else?

Even if, for the sake of argument, the ponente is blatantly biased in favor of Wrist Band, he can always be outnumbered by the other members of the Supreme Court.

The thing is, you don't just put pressure on the ponente. Look, he was accused of all sort of things, including probably taking a leak by the wall when he was a teenager.

But putting pressure on him is like putting pressure on the entire Supreme Court. So what in effect are we saying? That our justices cannot be trusted to make a wise and fair decision? Is that it?

GOLFERS
CLUB SHARES, INC.
SEC LICENSE # A 1998-2129
AS OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2001

	SELLING	BUYING
1. ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB "A"	1,700,000	1,500,000
2. ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB "B"	1,900,000	
3. BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB	750,000	700,000
4. CALATAGAN GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	100,000	
5. CAMP JOHN HAY	350,000	
6. CANLUBANG GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	800,000	
7. CAPITOL HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	135,000	125,000
8. CELEBRITY CLUB	210,000	200,000
9. COUNTRY CLUB AT TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS		380,000
10. CLUB FILIPINO	260,000	
11. EASTRIDGE GOLF CLUB "A"	220,000	
12. EAGLERIDGE GOLF CLUB "A"	400,000	340,000
13. EVERCREST GOLF CLUB "A"	140,000	100,000
14. FAIRWAYS & BLUEWATER	Pls. Call	Pls. Call
15. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	250,000	230,000
16. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	280,000	
17. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "C"	500,000	400,000
18. MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "A"	300,000	
19. MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "B"	400,000	
20. MANILA GOLF CLUB (CORP.)	16,000,000	
21. MANILA POLO CLUB	3,300,000	
22. MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "A"	750,000	700,000
23. MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "B"	900,000	800,000
24. MANILA YACHT CLUB	650,000	
25. METROPOLITAN CLUB "A"	160,000	
26. METROPOLITAN CLUB "B"	170,000	150,000
27. MT. MALARAYAT GOLF CLUB (IND.)	400,000	
28. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	250,000	240,000
29. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	400,000	
30. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "C"	550,000	
31. PUERTO AZUL BEACH CLUB	150,000	140,000
32. QUEZON CITY SPORTS CLUB	230,000	200,000
33. RIVIERA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	220,000	
34. RIVIERA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	350,000	
35. ROYAL NORTHWOODS	Pls. Call	
36. STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB "A"	1,500,000	
37. SUBIC BAY YACHT CLUB (IND)	300,000	
38. TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS INT'L. GOLF CLUB	900,000	850,000
39. TAGAYTAY MIDLAND	600,000	
40. VALLE VERDE COUNTRY CLUB	195,000	175,000
41. VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	285,000	
42. WACK WACK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	8,000,000	

ASSIGNMENT OF PLAYING RIGHTS PLS. CALL

JUST S. VIRAY
TRADING MANAGER

LALA SALAO / LYDIA HASEGAWA / FINAS VIRAY
TEL. NOS. 8175655 / 8121066 / 8193560
7517982 CP#0917-8114892

Projects worth ₱2.7B get BOI tax incentives

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE BOARD of Investments has granted pioneer incentives to Philippine Passport Corp.'s (Philpass) P2.5-billion project, which will modernize the Department of Finance's processing of passport and visa applications.

Philpass, wholly owned by BCA International Corp. of the Philippines, will design, develop, construct and bankroll the machine-readable passport and visa project of the DFA.

The project, which is being implemented under a build-operate-transfer scheme, will be operational in Metro Manila and the DFA's 10 regional offices nationwide. It will start operations in July 2002.

The project is expected to boost the acceptance and confidence in Philippine travel documents in international ports of entry and eliminate multiple travel documents.

The BOI gave the project pioneer incentives, which would entitle proponents an income tax break of at least six years, because it would cost more than P1 billion and it would provide open solutions and strategic directions in the fulfillment of e-government and e-business programs.

The BOI estimated that the project would generate P1.17 billion in foreign exchange revenues from visa applications and P324.34 million from income tax contributions.

The modernization of the passport and visa application process is meant as an integrated solution to deter any counterfeiting and forging of passports.

Aside from Philpass' project, the BOI also approved the P210-million project of Asian Eye Institute Inc., which will build a state-of-the-art eye care center at Rockwell Center in Makati City.

The project will service not only Filipinos but also Asean clients because eye care specialists are still scarce in the region. The center will specialize in intractable and pediatric glaucoma, corneal transplant and dry-eye ulcer, diabetic retinopathy and macular degeneration, tumors, and phaco technique for cataract cases.

T-bill rates . . .

(From page B1)

out that the market should factor in two things in its future bids: the expected 25- to 50-basis-point cut in US interest rates and the anticipated decline in the local inflation rate.

The anticipated US Fed cut during its regular meeting on Oct. 2 may prompt the BSP to finally reduce its overnight rates. Local monetary authorities have been wary to cut rates because of growing concerns on inflation.

Treasury bill yields track the movement of the central bank's overnight rates while the 91-day benchmark is used by banks in pricing their loans.

The fixed-income market was expecting the Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to cut overnight rates last Tuesday following the Federal Reserve's decision to cut US rates by half-a-percentage point to cushion the economic impact of the terrorist attacks in New York.

The move of the US, which was followed by European and several Asian central banks, was discounted by the BSP's policy-making Board which felt that inflation that could spike as a result of rising crude oil prices and a possible wage increase.

Traders said the market was very disappointed with the reaction of the central bank to the cuts made by central banks across the globe. They felt the BSP was focusing too much on inflation and very little on economic growth.

Edeza also noted that the fixed-income market should not worry about the government's rising budget deficit.

"I am confident that the deficit will be contained at P145 billion or even lower," he said.

Napocor . . .

(From page B1)

mandate to insure government property, including those of Napocor.

But Alcordo insisted that the power firm should have a hand in the process since "we are the client and we pay for the premiums."

Napocor's industrial all-risk policy covering fixed assets including power plants, substations, and submarine transmission cables, would expire at the end of the month.

The policy used to cover $10 billion in fixed assets but this had been reduced to $6.5 billion due to the mothballing of some of the assets.

The memorandum provides that the bidding should be done through "the most suitable electronic bidding process" in line with the government's thrust on information technology.

"It is mandatory to institute an open, competitive and transparent bidding process of the reinsurance of the properties of Napocor insured with the Government Service Insurance System," it said.

The join committee is made up of the general manager and the senior vice president of GSIS, the president of Napocor and the energy secretary, who is also a member of the Napocor board.

The committee, which is chaired by the finance secretary, was directed to award the winning bid at least 15 days before the renewal of Napocor's policy, which would mature at the end of the month.

GOVERNANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL
The President's Private Sector Council on Governance Reform

In partnership with

MAKATI BUSINESS CLUB
THE FORUM FOR CONSTRUCTIVE IDEAS
FINEX
ITFP
BBC
MAP
Bankers Association of the Philippines

present

"The Need for an Anti-Money Laundering System: Legislation and Beyond"
27 September 2001, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Ballroom 2&3, New World Hotel, Makati City

Organized by:

Ramon V. del Rosario, Sr.
AIM CENTER FOR CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY
Asian Institute of Management

C.V. STARR
CHAIR IN CORPORATE
GOVERNANCE
IN ASIA

A program endowed by:

AIG

AGILE
ACCELERATING
GROWTH
INVESTMENT and
LIBERALIZATION
with EQUITY

Anti-Money Laundering Conference
Thursday, 27 September 2001
Name ____________________
Title ____________________
Company ____________________
Address ____________________
City/State/Zip ____________________
Telephone/Fax ____________________
Email____________________

For more info pls call: 7521257 (telefax), 752-1208
750-1010 loc. 2139

Conference Fee: P500.00 No. of Registrants: ______
Total : ______

Pls make checks payable to the **Asian Institute of Management**
All cancellations for refunds must be received by 9.26.2001
NO SHOWS WILL BE BILLED

Gov't expects release of $350M in foreign borrowings in Sept.

BY CLARISSA S. BATINO

THE GOVERNMENT is expecting to receive next month the proceeds of debt paper issues worth $350 million.

The amount will bring to $870 million the government's foreign borrowings this year, which will be used to cover portion of this year's projected budget deficit.

National Treasurer Sergio Edeza said the government was expecting the release next month of $250 million from the 15-year bonds underwritten by US investment bank Credit Suisse First Boston.

Edeza said the government was expecting another $100 million from the one-year dollar-denominated treasury bills arranged by Citibank N.A.

The government had planned to issue as much as $200 million worth of Treasury bills through Citibank but Edeza said that with the global slowdown following the terrorist attacks on the United States, the size of the debt notes would be limited to $100 million.

The dollar-denominated treasury bills offer a yield of 2 to 2.3 percentage points over six-month London Interbank Offered Rate.

The $250-million Credit Suisse facility was priced at a rate very favorable to the government, said Edeza.

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho had said that these two borrowings were enough to finance the government's budget gap this year. Any fresh borrowing, he said, would be used to fund next year's budget deficit.

Edeza said there was no compelling reason for the government to secure new loans. Even the planned $500-million long-term global bond float has been postponed indefinitely.

Of the programmed P173 billion in total borrowings this year, the government was targeting to raise only about 30 percent or $740 million from foreign sources.

The government has so far tapped $520 million from foreign sources. These include the $200-million private placement with Credit Suisse and a $100 million worth of similar loan from JP Morgan Chase in June. A $220-million-swap facility was finalized with HSBC last month.

The government resorted to dollar-denominated and dollar-linked borrowings not only to finance the projected P145-billion deficit this year but also to help ease the pressure on the peso.

Edeza said the money coming in next month should convince the market that the government has sufficient cash to pay for its budget deficit which stood at P99.527 billion as of August.

The eight-month deficit was 3 percent higher than the target. Edeza pointed out that the government had opted not to include more than P5 billion in delayed payments and receivables that should have been booked in August.

"Notice is hereby given that the Securities and Exchange Commission, at its meeting on August 16, 2001, approved the request for exemption from the mandatory tender offer requirements of the Securities Regulation Code ("SRC") and its implementing rules and regulations, of the contemplated subscription of ATR-Kim Eng Capital Partners Inc., ATR Holdings, Inc., Motherwell, Inc., Francisco J. Colayco and Rodolfo I. Lozada, Jr. to new shares of Philtread Holdings Corporation. The exemption was based on the ground that the contemplated subscription will be a purchase of newly-issued shares from the unissued capital stock of Philtread Holdings Corporation as stated in SRC Rule 19-1 3(a)(i)."

COUNTRY SHARES

As of September 25, 2001

	BUYING	SELLING
ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB A	-	1,700,000
BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB	725,000	800,000
CALATAGAN GOLF CLUB A/B*	-	100,000/105,000*
CAMP JOHN HAY	300,000	325,000
CANLUBANG	-	800,000
CAPITOL HILLS	125,000	130,000
CELEBRITY SPORTS CLUB	210,000	215,000
EAGLE RIDGE A/B*/C**	350,000/620,000**	400,000/450,000*/700,000**
EASTRIDGE A	-	200,000
EVERCREST A/B*	-	150,000/170,000*
FONTANA D/C*/B**	88,000/120,000*	90,000/150,000*/280,000**
FOREST HILLS A/B*/C**	230,000	240,000/350,000*/450,000**
LUISITA GOLF CLUB	500,000	Please call or swap
MAKATI SPORTS A/B*	-	350,000/400,000*
MANILA POLO CLUB	-	3,575,000
MANILA SOUTHWOODS A/B*	700,000	700,000/850,000*
METROPOLITAN A/B*	-	175,000/180,000*
MIMOSA IND./CORP.*	-	240,000/375,000*
MT. MALARAYAT A/C* (with lot)**	-	400,000/650,000*/2,000,000**
ORCHARD A/B*/C**	600,000**	240,000/425,000*
PUERTO AZUL A/B*	150,000	170,000/Please call*
RIVIERA A/B*	-	230,000/400,000*
ROCKWELL CLUB	500,000	600,000
ROYALE TAGAYTAY A/B*/C**	100,000	120,000/150,000*/180,000**
SHERWOOD HILLS A/B*/C**	-	250,000/350,000*/450,000**
STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB A	1,700,000	1,825,000
SUBIC BAY IND/CORP.*	400,000*	300,000/450,000*
TAT FILIPINAS GOLF A/B*	320,000	350,000/550,000*
TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS CC/GOLF*	390,000/900,000*	400,000/850,000*
TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	750,000	800,000
VALLE VERDE IND.	180,000	185,000
WACK WACK	7,000,000	7,500,000

Available Lessors for Playing Rights: Alabang, Calatagan, Camp John Hay, Canlubang, Canyon Woods, Celebrity, Eagleridge, Eastridge, Forest Hills, Makati Sports, Malarayat, Orchard, Riviera, Sta. Elena, Southwoods, Tagaytay Highlands and Midlands, Valley Golf, Wack Wack, Rockwell and Others
Selling: Villas, Belleview, Pinecrest and Woodlands in Tagaytay Highlands
Lots: Eagleridge, Forest Hills, Punta Fuego, Royale Tagaytay and Southwoods
Buying: Orchard Lot Phase 7

Pls. Call Tel. Nos. 853-1626/27; Globe 0917-5381722 or 0917-6140856

Napocor eyes deal on plants, steamfields

BY RONNEL W. DOMINGO

NATIONAL Power Corp. aims to close a deal soon with an affiliate of Philippine Geothermal Inc. on the merger of the state firm's geothermal power plants with PGI's steamfields in Albay and Laguna, the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management said Friday.

Psalm president Edgardo del Fonso said Napocor was expecting to close the deal with Power and Renewable Energy Corp. (PowerCorp) by November.

PowerCorp is a joint venture between businessman Eusebio Tanco and PGI.

Also, Del Fonso said Napocor was hoping to consolidate its power plants with the steamfields of PNOC Energy Development Corp. in Sorsogon, Negros Oriental and Leyte by mid-October.

Psalm, which was created by the Electric Power Industry Reform Act, will absorb all of Napocor's disposable assets effective Dec. 27.

Del Fonso added that Napocor's geothermal plants would be excluded from the state firm's other generation assets.

In an earlier interview, Napocor president Jesus N. Alcordo said he was agreeable to consolidating the firm's geothermal plants with PNOC-EDC's steam fields.

"It is not a bad idea because, who will be interested to buy our geothermal plants without the steamfields?" Alcordo asked.

Alcordo added that it would also be difficult for PNOC-EDC to sell only the steamfields without the power plants that they serve.

PNOC-EDC chair Sergio F. Apostol had said the firm was keen on buying Napocor's geothermal assets amid plans for its own privatization.

"We have offered to buy all of Napocor's power plants that are drawing steam from our fields," Apostol said in a previous interview.

₱1.7B earmarked for GSIS members

THE GOVERNMENT Service Insurance System has set aside P1.71 billion for dividend distribution this year.

The bulk of the amount, or P1.372 billion, will go to regular policyholders who are entitled to a 90-percent dividend increase starting Dec. 1 this year.

GSIS president and general manager Winston F. Garcia said this was the single biggest increase in dividends that the GSIS has ever granted in any given period. Over the last nine years, the average increase in dividends was only 23 percent. This year's allocation for dividend distribution to regular policyholders is higher by P650 million from the P722 million released in year 2000.

In terms of premium contributions, the dividend to be received by a member this year is equivalent to 3.33 months of a member's premium.

Of the P1.710 billion in total allocation for dividend distribution this year, P238 million will go to optional life policyholders. This marks a 10-percent increase in their dividends from last year's million.

Leave Your Hair & Scalp Problems To The Real Hair & Scalp Experts

SVENSON INTERNATIONAL

Dandruff, oily scalp, thinning and falling hair problems---do they still persist even after you use shampoos and conditioners? If you are beset by hair-loss problems and scalp irritations, it's time you seek help from the hair and scalp experts of Svenson International.

Svenson is a professional clinic specializing in associated hair and scalp problems for men and women. Our consultants are expertly trained to give you a careful diagnosis of your hair and scalp's condition. Treatments will be recommended which include deep cleansing your hair follicles and revitalizing your scalp to provide the correct environment for stimulating your hair's optimum, healthy growth.

Come to Svenson and leave all your hair and scalp problems behind once and for all!

Svenson INTERNATIONAL
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD

MAKATI
Solid Mills Bldg., dela Rosa St.
817-2260 • 817-2194

QUEZON CITY
Cedar Executive Bldg.
Timog Avenue
372-6631 • 372-6632

BINONDO
Federal Tower Bldg.,
Dasmariñas St.
243-0128 • 244-8913

ALABANG
Citibank-Frabelle Bldg.,
Alabang-Zapote Rd.
842-1389 • 842-4181

CEBU
Keppel Centre, Cebu City
032-2340851 • 032-2340853

MON - FRI 8AM - 7PM • SATURDAY 8AM - 1PM

2002 FIFA WORLD CUP KOREA JAPAN

FUJI XEROX

Official Partner

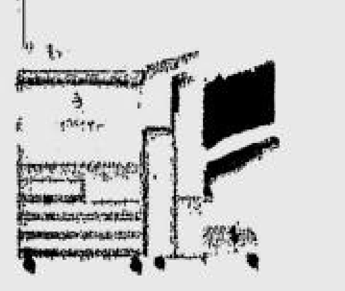
Xtraordinary colours.

Xerox printers. Xpect more.

Our true-to-life colour printouts lend a whole new dimension to your office documents. With high-resolution scanning capability, colours are further enhanced and given a richer feel. Our unique wax-toner and oil-less printouts also allow you to write on printed surfaces. The duplex printing capability enables you to print on both sides, up to A3 size. So add more colours to your workplace by owning a Xerox colour printer now!

DocuPrint C621
Laser Printer/Copier/Scanner
- 6ppm colour, 26ppm b/w print speed
- 600dpi x 8bit full colour scanning
- 1200 x 1200dpi
- High quality oil-less printout
- Duplex printing up to A3
- 100Base-Tx/100BaseT network card

DocuColor 1250
- 12.5ppm colour, 50ppm b/w print speed
- 600 x 600dpi x 8bit resolution
- Print and copy up to 320mm x 450mm
- High quality and high speed printing
- Multi-protocol and multi-operating system capabilities



THE DOCUMENT COMPANY
FUJI XEROX

Philippine Fuji Xerox Corporation • ***Head Office***: 19th Floor 6788 Ayala Avenue, Makati City 1229 Trunk Line: (63-2) 886-7075 to 94 • ***Nationwide Sales Offices***: **Metro Manila**: Printer Hotline (02) 886-7176 • **North Luzon**: Angeles: (045) 332-1011 • Baguio: (074) 4428261 / 3043238 • Olongapo: (047) 222-6449 La Union: (072) 242-4092 / 888-3134 • **South Luzon**: Alabang / Laguna: (02) 809-4519 • Cavite: (046) 438-2996 / 438-6442 • Bicol: (052) 480-6375 / 820-6088 • **Visayas**: Cebu: (032) 254-6792 / 254-6793 • Iloilo: (033) 336-1044 / 508-5991 • Tacloban: (053) 325-6032 / 321-2330 • **Mindanao**: Davao: (082) 234-6714 / 234-9220 • Butuan: (085) 225-3675 • Cagayan de Oro: (08822) 721-344 / (088) 856-1896 • Ozamis: (088) 521-0492 • Zamboanga: (062) 991-2679 • Cotabato: (064) 421-3358 • General Santos: (083) 553-3507

With Nationwide Full Service Network

Xerox, The Document Company and the stylised X are registered trademarks/trademarks.

Website: www.fujixerox.com.ph

Assessing the impact

ON THE MONEY

John Mangun

THE DISASTER of the attack on America continued to roll through the financial world last week, as stock markets took a profound beating. Politics and military action aside, this was truly an assault on the world as no country will be, spared from the short and long term economic effects.

So many people have asked my thoughts on these effects and I appreciate your questions. It is difficult to make an assessment that will hold for long as the picture continues to develop and change.

However, there are two 'macro' concepts that will filter down to virtually every person on the planet.

Please bear in mind that this takes no account of any additional problems caused by any military action that will occur.

The United States is the biggest buyer in the world.

Over one trillion dollars of goods are imported every year. For example, the Philippines sells about $12 billion of products to the US. Japan delivers over $120 billion. Even Iraq exports over $1 billion worth of goods to the US every year.

Let's assume for a moment that US consumer spending falls by 10 percent and that translates into a 10-percent fall in imports. That means $100 billion worth of business will be taken out of the world economy. However, that is just the start. The number grows much higher when you consider the trickle down effects. If the US reduces buying from Great Britain, Great Britain reduces its buying from Germany.

Germany then buys less from Russia on and on. It is like a factory that closes, putting 100 people out of work that, in turn, puts another 100 people out of work in the surrounding community. Like it or not, the US is the engine that runs the global economy. There is no way for an economic slack in the US to be taken up by increased production somewhere else.

Along with the decrease in consumer spending, will be a change in attitude that will affect US aid money.

With a wartime mentality taking over, the US will be less inclined to help other countries with funding.

There are some interesting ironies about the criticism of the US policy in the Middle East. I will admit that the US policy for these last 30 years has been a failure if success is measured by stability and peace. However, USAID gave almost $100 million to the Palestine authority in year 2000 to help the Palestinians.

Funding for 2001 and 2002 was expected to reach $350 million. Here again the ripple effect of these funds being cut will be substantial. Other donor countries will reduce overseas spending also.

We have already seen the first major economic effects in the airline and travel industry. It is not limited to the US. In Asia, thousands of hotel bookings have been canceled in the wake of the attack. Most tourists in this region are not from the US. As I mentioned a couple of weeks ago, Thailand depends on 10 percent of its economy on tourism, which mostly is generated out of Europe. With a global decrease in tourism, comes less demand in the crude oil market.

As we have seen, there has only been a slight reaction in the price of crude oil. Literally hundreds of thousands of jobs have been lost in the industry in the US. Many thousands more will be lost in Europe as American tourists will stay home. This may be a phenomenon that will last for a couple of years. It will be very difficult to reverse this mind set. Hundreds of billions of dollars more will be lost to the world economy.

My opinion is that the world economy will shrink over the next six months based on reduced exports to the US and a decrease in tourism. Having said that, I believe that, baring any military disaster, the US economy will revive itself at the end of those six months.

From reading the newspapers, it seems as if it is nearly business as usual at Malacañang. That is a grave mistake. This is not the Gulf War. This is not a situation where life will go on, and nonplayers will be able to sit on the sidelines and watch. The military participation or non-participation by the Philippines is not the major issue in the larger picture. Although the stock market may head down to or even below the 1998 low of 1050, that too is a minor issue. Direct investments in this country from foreign sources is a minor issue. The fact that export earnings may fall is a relatively minor issue.

The most important issue is food security in both the short and long term.

Each administration including the current one talks about it, but does little about it. Each administration, at best, treats agriculture as if it were a business and not essential. You even see the government encouraging farmers to produce 'high value crops' for export rather than life sustaining food for the table.

Even considering a best-case scenario, the time to transport goods across international borders will increase. Increased security will require this. A slowdown in the movement of goods will increase the price. We will see higher prices for all the food we import. A worst-case scenario, probably due to military action, will see that foodstuff become unavailable. If the terrorist forces decide to take the same war mentality as the US, then there could be attacks, disrupting transportation and production around the world. This 'war' is not confined to a limited battlefield. We have been told repeatedly by world leaders that this is a global war against terrorism.

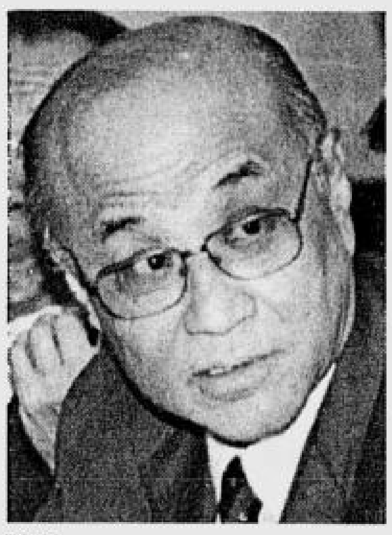
They might be right.

Because of bad weather in 1998, we imported over 2 million tons of rice. That is equivalent to three months supply at present consumption. What would this country do if food imports were not available for six months? What would President Macapagal-Arroyo and her government do to protect us? This has the potential of being life threatening and an economic catastrophe. *(John Mangun can be reached at 636-1121 to 35, Fax No. 634-2349 or e-mail at johnmangun@yahoo.com.)*

INSIDER TRADING

SEC orders probe of Yap

BY ELENA R. TORRIJOS



YAP

SYJUCO

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission has directed the Philippine Stock Exchange to include its chair Felipe Yap in its ongoing investigation of the alleged insider trading and price manipulation involving RFM Corp. and Cosmos Bottling Corp.

In a letter to PSE president Ramon Garcia Thursday, SEC market regulation department director Jose Aquino said the directive was issued in order "to prevent further erosion of trust and confidence in the Philippine capital market."

The SEC, for its part, will start investigating Yap based on a complaint-affidavit filed by Iloilo Rep. Augusto Syjuco Jr. last week.

Yap's strategic position as PSE chair and his active and willful participation in the purchase of Cosmos shares on July 25, a day before RFM disclosed it had signed a memorandum of understanding to sell its stake in Cosmos to San Miguel Corp., "showed reliance on material insider information."

Yap could not be contacted for comment as of press time yesterday. He was out of the country and was scheduled to be back last night.

Syjuco alleged that the actions of Yap constituted violations of the country's securities laws for which the exchange chair should be charged and held liable in the proper courts.

Meanwhile, the SEC yesterday said it has not affirmed any findings clearing RFM Corp. and Cosmos of insider trading or price manipulation charges lodged by Syjuco.

An official of the SEC explained that the Commission was awaiting the PSE to come out with its findings before making any decision.

The SEC said Friday that it would also investigate Yap for insider trading and price manipulation following a formal complaint filed by Syjuco.

SEC Associate Commissioner Joselia Poblador said Friday that the complaint paved the way for the SEC to look further into Syjuco's allegations that Yap was privy to insider information when he bought a large amount of Cosmos shares on July 25.

On that day, Cosmos' parent company RFM Corp. denied that it had reached an agreement on the purchase structure of Cosmos with any buyer, including San Miguel Corp. On the next day, however, RFM publicly revealed that it had approved and signed a memorandum of agreement with SMC for the sale of at 82.3-percent stake in the soft drink unit.

FLI to issue debt papers worth ₱1B

BY DORIS C. DUMLAO

HOUSING developer Filinvest Land Inc. is raising up to P1 billion in fresh funds through the issuance of long-term commercial papers.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, FLI corporate secretary Dante Ramos said the issuance would be used to "finance the company's development projects, meet working capital requirements and settle obligations."

ATR Kim Eng Securities property analyst Dennis Du said the domestic issuance was part of a financing package being put up by FLI to retire maturing debts. He estimated that FLI has $54 million to $55 million (P2.7-P2.75 billion) in foreign obligations that would fall due this November.

The company's total long-term debt stood at P5.3 billion, its financial statement as of June this year showed.

FLI is one of the oldest and largest residential real estate developers in the Philippines. It offers a wide range of products including socialized and affordable housing, middle income and high-end housing, and various types of subdivision lots.

Du said the company's niche, however, was the middle income market.

"The overseas Filipino workers segment is an important component of the middle income market and because of the global recession, the OFW market is expected to contract and affect the entire property sector," Du said.

Citing recent surveys, Du said consumer confidence in the country has been declining.

"The sales of low-cost and middle-cost housing units are very much tied up to consumer confidence," he said.

FLI is among the few property counters that remain attractive to foreign investors.

From January to June this year, FLI posted a net income of P374 million, almost flat compared with P375 million registered in the same semester last year. Its total resources stood at P25 billion.

FLI was recognized by financial publication "Euromoney" in its December 1999 issue as among the top three property companies in Asia. Another financial publication, "Finance Asia," recognized FLI as one of "Asia's Best Performing Companies" in its March 2000 issue.

Philratings has upgraded its credit rating for FLI from A to AA. FLI said such a rating reflected "prudent financial management, moderate debt position, resiliency and strong operating performance amidst the economic and industry slowdown."

Grand Plaza reduces capital stock to ₱1.27B

GRAND Plaza Hotel Corp., owner and operator of the Heritage Hotel Manila, is cutting down its authorized capital stock from P1.5 billion to P1.27 billion in order to reduce company shares held in its treasury.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, Grand Plaza said its board has agreed to amend its charter and reduce the company's authorized capital.

The new capital stock is divided into 150 million common shares with a par value of P10. This brings the number of listed shares down to 99.32 million common shares.

The retired treasury-held shares translated into 127 shares.

Grand Plaza is currently negotiating for a five-year extension of its management agreement with CDL Hotels (Philippines) Corp.

Listed in 1992, Grand Plaza is principally engaged in hotel, recreation and tourism services. It is a subsidiary of CDL Hotels International Ltd., a member of the Hong Leong Group of Singapore.

Its flagship business, Heritage Hotel along Roxas Boulevard, is a deluxe hotel with 467 rooms. The company also has a 40-percent stake in Harbour Land Corp.

Grand Plaza also embarked earlier into an attractive share buyback program. The buying back of shares is a usual practice among companies with sufficient retained earnings and that believe that the market has undervalued their shares.

Among the companies that have been actively buying back their respective shares recently were Jollibee Foods Corp., Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc., San Miguel Corp., RFM Corp. and Megaworld Corp.

The buyback was funded with the company's unrestricted retained earnings. The price was set at P50, much higher than the prevailing market price then of only P30 per share.

DISCLOSURES

FORTUNE Cement Corp. announced the resignation of Gilbert Garcia as director, president and corporate information officer of the company.

* * *

FIL-Estate Land Inc. moved its annual stockholders' meeting from Oct. 17 to Oct. 31. Record date is still Sept. 27.

* * *

EASYCALL Communications Philippines Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Oct. 31 at the company's headquarters in Mandaluyong City.

* * *

FILINVEST Land Inc. will issue long-term commercial papers not exceeding P1 billion to finance its development projects as well as to service its obligations.

* * *

PRIME Gaming Philippines Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Oct. 25, 11 a.m. at the Acacia Function Room of Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Makati City. Only stockholders of record as of Sept. 5 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research

Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Monday, Sept. 24, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Bank of the Phil. Islands	52	52.5	51.5	52.5	100,200
China Banking Corp.	550	580	550	580	20
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	24.5	24.5	24	24	89,800
First E-Bank Corp.	1	1	1	1	6,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	204	207	204	204	36,360
Philippine National Bank	50	50	49.5	50	213,800
Phil. Savings Bank	29	29	29	29	11,300
Union Bank of the Phil.	18.25	18.5	18.25	18.25	105,800
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.14	1.2	1.14	1.2	5,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1140	1140	1140	1140	4,850
Sun Life Financial Serv.	895	910	885	890	15,920
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	24	24	23	23.25	19,900
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	0.35	0.35	0.34	0.34	950,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	630	635	625	635	1,800
Ipeople Inc.	0.86	0.91	0.86	0.91	14,000
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	800,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	340,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3	3	3	3	10,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	60,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	485	487.5	475	485	149,530
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.024	0.024	0.021	0.022	24,000,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	27	27	27	27	50,100
Manila Electric Co. B	37.5	37.5	35.5	35.5	482,600
Petron Corp.	1.34	1.34	1.28	1.3	2,177,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.84	0.85	0.84	0.84	240,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	50,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	1.54	1.56	1.52	1.54	828,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	70,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	40,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	251,000
Union Cement Corp.	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	83,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	50,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	20,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	12	12.25	11.75	12.25	24,000
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	24	24.5	23.5	24.5	39,100
RFM Corp.	2.06	2.06	1.96	1.96	1,248,000
San Miguel Corp. A	38	38.5	37.5	38.5	120,200
San Miguel Corp. B	49	50.5	49	50	1,257,400
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	5.6	5.6	5.3	5.6	2,251,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	100,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.65	0.7	0.65	0.7	50,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	261,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	20,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	10,000
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.19	0.22	0.19	0.22	60,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.12	1.14	1.06	1.12	2,308,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.2	0.2	550,000
Fil-Estate Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	20,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	110,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	24	24.25	24	24.25	37,000
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.18	0.22	200,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	100,000
Ionics Inc.	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	1,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.58	1.58	1.54	1.54	135,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.61	0.61	0.58	0.61	2,270,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.27	0.28	0.26	0.26	2,400,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.35	350,000
Tanduay Holdings Inc.	5	5	4.7	4.7	8,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.15	0.16	0.14	0.16	890,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	30,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.2	0.25	0.2	0.25	280,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Metro Alliance Holdings	0.42	0.43	0.42	0.43	40,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.46	0.5	0.46	0.5	100,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	3,300,000
Central Azucar Don Pedro	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.74	50,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	10.5	10.75	10.5	10.75	331,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	750,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.43	0.46	2,370,000
Manila Jockey Club	19.25	19.75	19.25	19.75	10,000
Philippine Racing Club	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	400,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	23	23	22.5	23	102,500
Globe Telecom Hldg. (Pdr)	610	610	610	610	3,700
Jollibee Warrants	11.75	11.75	11.5	11.5	10,900
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.0018	0.0018	0.0018	0.0018	4,000,000
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10	10	10	10	6,000
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	4,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.25	16,087,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	20,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.17	1,210,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.23	0.23	0.225	0.225	670,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	1,850,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.58	1.58	1.4	1.4	2,464,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	60,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6	6	5.9	5.9	7,070,000
Universal Rightfield Prop.	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	1,800,000
MINING					
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't.	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.5	58,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.026	0.029	0.026	0.029	23,500,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.16	0.16	0.155	0.16	580,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.165	0.165	0.165	0.165	710,000
Omico Corp.	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	4,000,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.016	0.016	0.015	0.015	5,900,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.32	0.34	0.32	0.34	890,000
OIL					
Interport Res.	0.0042	0.0042	0.004	0.004	6,000,000
Interport Res. B	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	5,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	3,000,000
South China Resources Inc	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	40,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	589,050	47,493,280.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	318,033,730	202,083,660.00
PRO	31,231,000	114,768,660.00
Mining	35,638,000	1,354,750.00
OIL	14,040,000	64,400.00
GRAND TOTALS:	399,531,780	365,764,750.00

CURRENCIES

Sept. 24, 2001

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency In US$	Foreign currency In Peso
United States	Dollar	1.093733	1.000000	51.2680
Japan	Yen	0.009375	0.008572	0.4395
United Kingdom	Pound	1.593459	1.456900	74.6923
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.140233	0.128215	6.5733
Switzerland	Franc	0.692587	0.633232	32.4645
Canada	Dollar	0.696246	0.636578	32.6361
Singapore	Dollar	0.626961	0.573230	29.3884
Australia	Dollar	0.529576	0.484191	24.8235
Bahrain	Dinar	2.901303	2.652661	135.9966
Kuwait	Dinar	N/A	N/A	N/A
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.291623	0.266631	13.6696
Brunei	Dollar	0.625169	0.571592	29.3044
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000116	0.000106	0.0054
Thailand	Baht	0.024706	0.022589	1.1581
UAE	Dirham	0.297857	0.272331	13.9619
Korea	Won	0.000844	0.000772	0.0396
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.914300	46.8743
Germany	Mark	0.511292	0.467474	23.9665
France	Franc	0.152450	0.139384	7.1459
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453780	0.414891	21.2706
Austria	Schilling	0.072673	0.066445	3.4065
Belgium	Franc	0.024789	0.022665	1.1620
Italy	Lire	0.000516	0.000472	0.0242
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.153774	7.8837
Portugal	Escudo	0.004989	0.004561	0.2338
Spain	Peseta	0.006010	0.005495	0.2817
Luxemburg	Franc	0.024789	0.022665	1.1620
Ireland	Punt	1.269739	1.160922	59.5181

Opec may keep oil output steady

LONDON—Terror attacks on the United States together with fears of a dramatic slowdown in the global economy create a backdrop of uncommon urgency for Opec oil ministers meeting this week to review their crude production quotas.

As suppliers of almost 40 percent of the world's oil, members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries have the power to help shore up the buckling global economy—or speed its descent into recession.

Stakes are high for Wednesday's meeting in Vienna, Austria—a meeting some Opec delegates and energy analysts had earlier envisioned as routine.

In the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks on New York and Washington, some analysts believe Opec members might discuss reversing this month's cut in output of 1 million barrels a day—though the cartel is likely just to renew its existing quotas.

"Opec doesn't need to do anything. What Opec should avoid doing now is to cut production to get prices back up again. If they did, they would make a recession worse," said Leo Drollas, chief economist of the Center for Global Energy Studies in London.

Opec has a production target of 23.2 million barrels a day, after having slashed its official production this year by a total of 3.5 million barrels a day in an effort to keep prices firm.

In the wake of this month's terror attacks, the United States, the world's most voracious oil importer, is leaning on Opec to keep prices and supplies stable. *AP*

Despite lingering war fears, stocks mixed across Asia

HONG KONG—Despite lingering fears about the economic impact of the terrorism crisis, stocks were mixed across Asia on Monday afternoon with some markets moving into the black and others narrowing early losses.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index advanced by 165.98 points, or 1.9 percent, to 9,100.18 by the midday break. Seoul's market was up by 1.3 percent, and Singapore shares overcame an early slide of 3.5 percent to show a gain of 0.1 percent.

Many investors remained gloomy, however, and most markets were lower by early afternoon.

Prices were down by 1.7 percent in Kuala Lumpur, 2 percent in Taipei, 0.9 percent in Wellington and 1.5 percent in Manila.

"I think everybody is getting a bit out of control on this," said Hugh Robertson, head of equities at Falkiners Stockbroking in Australia, where prices were off by 0.8 percent in Sydney in the late afternoon.

"It may keep going down, but historically something like this happens and the market takes a little while to adjust," Robertson said. "We just don't know if this is an Asian crisis blip or a 1930s type blip."

The region's biggest market, Tokyo, was closed Monday for a public holiday.

As small investors staged an early morning buying spree in Seoul, analysts said it was too soon to predict any sustained turnaround.

"I don't see why they have to buy," said David Kim, general manager of international business at Seoul Securities. "I think it's bargain-hunting. It's purely short-term oriented."

Investors in most markets are apparently leery about purchasing more shares until they see signs of stability on Wall Street, which plunged last week following the terror attacks on the United States and President George W. Bush's pledge to wage a war on terrorism.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost about 14.3 percent of its value, and the Nasdaq composite index lost 16.1 percent last week when they reopened after being closed four days by the suicide hijackings that destroyed New York's World Trade Center and killed thousands.

The Dow dropped 1.7 percent on Friday, and the Nasdaq fell 3.3 percent.

The US airline industry has been devastated by the crisis, and despite a $15-billion government bailout and tens of thousands of layoffs, it's unclear when the carriers can become financially healthy again. The ripple effects into other sectors could bring more serious pain to an economy that was showing signs of trouble even before the terrorists struck on Sept. 11.

"The attacks on the US and the repercussions will put a damper on businesses worldwide, and there isn't any short-term solution to the problems facing businesses," said Richard Leggat, head of trading at the investment bank UBS Warburg in Wellington.

Stock trading resumed Monday in Pakistan, where markets had been closed last week, and the Karachi Stock Exchange's benchmark index showed a quick loss of 0.3 percent. The market had plunged 9 percent in the three sessions following the terror attacks. *AP*

Daewoo plants face liquidation

SEOUL—Daewoo Motor Co.'s plants in India and nine other countries face liquidation if they fail to tempt buyers by cutting costs and jobs, a creditor bank report said Monday.

After General Motors Corp. (GM) took over Daewoo Motor last week, the South Korean carmaker promised to keep supplying parts and technology to overseas plants not included in the deal.

GM said it would only take over Daewoo Motor production facilities in Egypt and Vietnam, on top of two of the three factories in South Korea. Daewoo Motor's commercial vehicle plants in South Korea were also excluded.

But state-run Korea Development Bank suggested in a report that the remaining factories would have to carry out sweeping restructuring to become more attractive to buyers or face liquidation.

"For those overseas manufacturing facilities of Daewoo Motor that are not being acquired by the new company, several will continue to be supplied parts, components and technical assistance from the new company for a period of time," GM said in its official statement last Friday.

The US giant rejected six passenger car plants in Poland, India, Romania, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Iran, as well as seven commercial vehicle plants in China, the Philippines, Poland and Czech Republic.

The Polish government is now seeking for buyer of Daewoo-FSO and commercial vehicle producer Daewoo Motor Poland, while Daewoo's plant in India also hopes to survive independently.

The Daewoo Motor sale was one of the cornerstones of South Korea's economic reform since the 1997 Asian economic crisis. But many analysts believed Daewoo Motor was sold at a bargain price.

GM said it hoped to build up a $5-billion-a-year business from its new Asian foothold. The deal, reached at the end of almost a year of tough bargaining, was worth $2 billion, according to creditors.

But no money will be handed over straight away. Analysts believe the deal will not improve the financial structure of creditors.

The creditors are also responsible for any undetected bad loans found during an inspection of assets and liabilities.

If Daewoo's foreign debts go beyond $268 million, creditors would have to assume the excessive amount.

The only cash commitment made by the world's No. 1 carmaker was to inject $400 million to run Daewoo, which collapsed last November with an estimated $17.5 billion in liabilities.

The GM consortium will take on about $800 million of debt. But creditors promised a fresh operating loan of up to $2 billion.

Daewoo returned to profit this year after shedding 7,000 of its 22,000 workers. Creditors have spent hundreds of millions of dollars to keep it going and may have to write off several billion dollars in liabilities. *AFP*

HK to help fund airlines' premiums

HONG KONG—The Hong Kong government is to put up funds to help Cathay Pacific Airways and Dragonair meet higher insurance premiums in the wake of the terror attacks on the United States, Financial Secretary Antony Leung said Monday.

"The government is going to propose to the finance committee to undertake guarantees for third party indemnities arising out of war, or terrorism or other period," Leung told reporters.

He said government officials had held talks with aviation industry representatives in past days to try to resolve an insurance crisis that threatens to ground airlines from Tuesday.

"But up to today, while there is some minor progress, there is no assurance that the private insurance companies would come up with some solutions. That's why the government is proposing to the finance committee to undertake these kind of guarantees."

Leung stressed air transport was "extremely important" to Hong Kong, being an open economy.

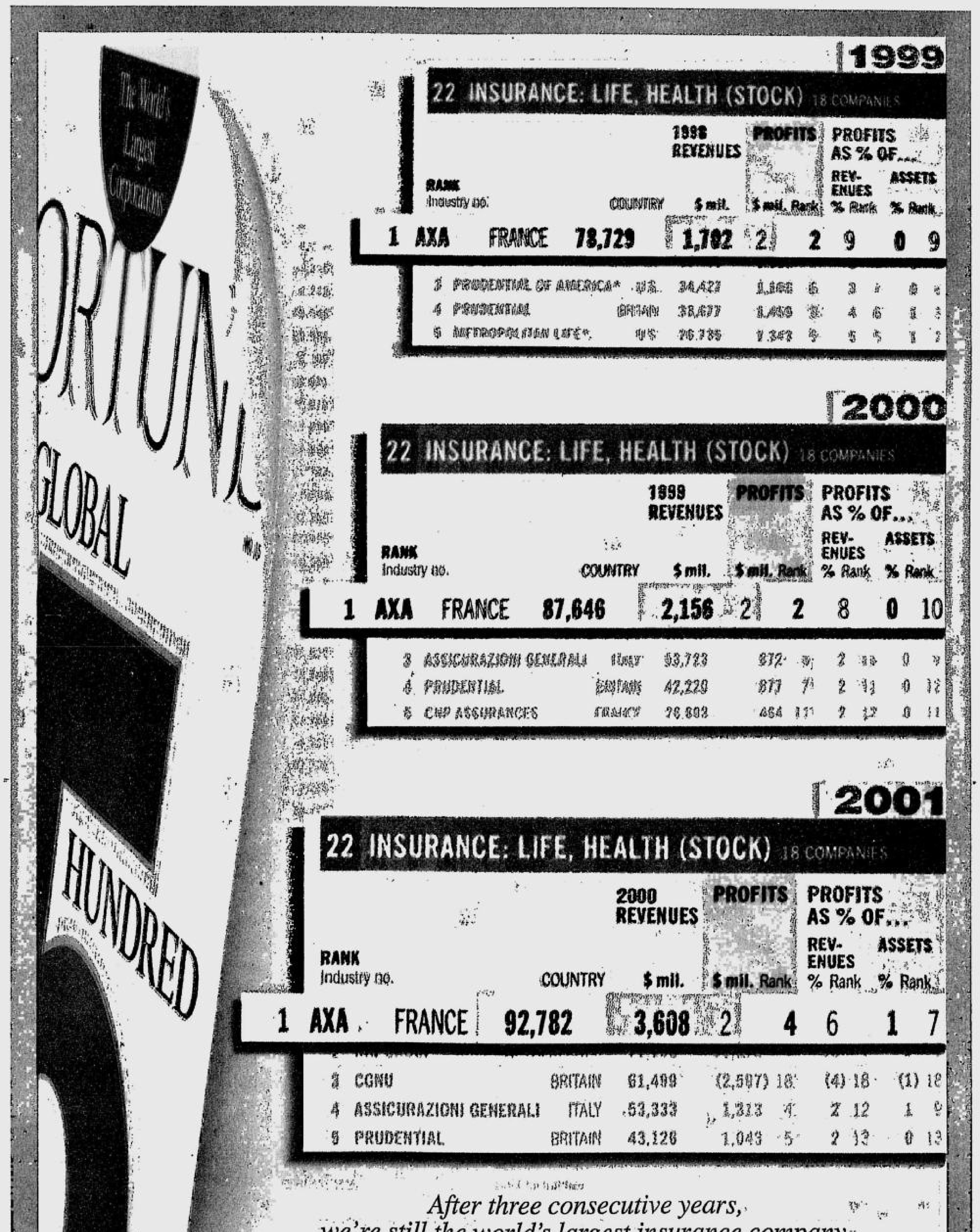
If the airlines in the territory were forced to ground all its flights, "it will hurt Hong Kong's economy badly" as well as employment opportunities, he said.

Details of the fund requests would be announced later in the day, said Leung.

The Hong Kong Economic Journal cited sources as saying the Hong Kong government is likely to provide more than $100 million in aid to Cathay Pacific, the territory's dominant long-haul airline, to meet higher insurance premiums.

European governments have already stepped in to indemnify their airlines after insurance companies withdrew cover for third-party war and terrorism liabilities above $50 million.

Sunday's meeting was believed to have been attended by representatives of Hong Kong-based Cathay Pacific —one of Asia's biggest airlines— Dragonair, Air Hong Kong, the Airport Authority and Civil Aviations Department. *AFP*



1999

22 INSURANCE: LIFE, HEALTH (STOCK) 18 COMPANIES

RANK Industry no.		COUNTRY	1998 REVENUES $ mil.	PROFITS $ mil.	PROFITS Rank	PROFITS AS % OF... REVENUES %	REVENUES Rank	ASSETS %	ASSETS Rank
1	AXA	FRANCE	78,729	1,702	2	2	9	0	9
3	PRUDENTIAL OF AMERICA*	U.S.	34,427	1,166	6	3	[illegible]	0	[illegible]
4	PRUDENTIAL	BRITAIN	38,677	1,459	[illegible]	4	6	1	3
5	METROPOLITAN LIFE*	U.S.	26,735	1,343	[illegible]	5	5	1	2

2000

22 INSURANCE: LIFE, HEALTH (STOCK) 18 COMPANIES

RANK Industry no.		COUNTRY	1999 REVENUES $ mil.	PROFITS $ mil.	PROFITS Rank	PROFITS AS % OF... REVENUES %	REVENUES Rank	ASSETS %	ASSETS Rank
1	AXA	FRANCE	87,646	2,156	2	2	8	0	10
3	ASSICURAZIONI GENERALI	ITALY	53,723	872	9	2	10	0	9
4	PRUDENTIAL	BRITAIN	42,229	877	7	2	11	0	12
5	CNP ASSURANCES	FRANCE	26,803	464	11	2	12	0	11

2001

22 INSURANCE: LIFE, HEALTH (STOCK) 18 COMPANIES

RANK Industry no.		COUNTRY	2000 REVENUES $ mil.	PROFITS $ mil.	PROFITS Rank	PROFITS AS % OF... REVENUES %	REVENUES Rank	ASSETS %	ASSETS Rank
1	AXA	FRANCE	92,782	3,608	2	4	6	1	7
3	CGNU	BRITAIN	61,499	(2,597)	18	(4)	18	(1)	18
4	ASSICURAZIONI GENERALI	ITALY	53,333	1,313	4	2	12	1	9
5	PRUDENTIAL	BRITAIN	43,126	1,043	5	2	13	0	13

After three consecutive years, we're still the world's largest insurance company.

With revenues reaching a high of $92.7 billion and assets totaling $445.5 billion, it's no surprise AXA was again named by Fortune Magazine as the world's largest insurance company for the third straight year. As one of the world's top corporations, AXA operates in over sixty countries, including the Philippines through Philippine AXA Life. A product of the unrivaled expertise of the global AXA Group, the world's largest insurer and the unmatched financial strength of Metrobank, the country's No. 1 bank, Philippine AXA Life brings Filipinos innovative insurance products and services to better meet their needs and secure their future. You're always a world ahead with Philippine AXA Life.

METROBANK
PHILIPPINE AXA LIFE

Go ahead with Philippine AXA Life.

Ground Floor, Philippine AXA Life Center, Skyland Plaza, Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
Tel No. (632) 810-1394 Fax Nos. (632) 759-6761 to 62 website: www.axa.com.ph

Member of the Metrobank Group

People, Events & Products

ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Unisys-Stradcom to spread LTO-IT project nationwide

UNISYS Corp. has reinforced its commitment alongside Stradcom Corp. to complete the Land Transportation Office-Information Technology Project (LTO-IT) by next year. Unisys, known worldwide as a leading provider of electronic business solutions, affirmed its strong partnership with Stradcom.

"Unisys and Stradcom define a partnership as being an organization of persons sharing a common interest and purpose that can work cooperatively together in a team environment for mutual benefit in addition to providing quality products for beneficiaries of the partnership," said Unisys public sector director Tony Tissington.

The partnership started in March 1999, when the modernization program of the LTO received a boost as the Stradcom Corp. and Unisys Philippines signed a system integration contract for the LTO-IT project. "The Stradcom Corp. recognized that Unisys Philippines had a solid background in systems integration and implementation, having proven itself in numerous similar projects around the world," said Stradcom chair Cezar T. Quiambao.

As soon as the partnership was formed, both Stradcom and Unisys immediately assigned highly qualified and fully equipped IT professionals to the project team. In close coordination with LTO officials, studies and discussions on the core business processes of the agency quickly led to the successful adoption of the business process specification (BPS) in October 1999. The BPS was the blueprint of the requirements and changes that put LTO well on the road to computerization and improved business processes.

The first systems were rolled out for initial testing in certain NCR offices from July 2000 onwards. By the end of 2000, the majority of the district offices in the NCR were processing selected transactions using the new system in parallel with their existing manual processes.

In May 2001, all district offices in NCR had adopted the new system for most of their transactions. The public reaction to the immediate improvement in the service levels in these offices was swift and sweet, and the system in now being hailed as a showcase of how information, communications and technology can help raise the level of service excellence in government offices.

The LTO-IT project was cited by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in her recent State of the Nation address.

The partnership is currently deep in planning activities to implement the system into full operation throughout the country. Full implementation is planned for completion by the end of 2001. "Stradcom's pioneering spirit has made all this possible," Tissington stressed. "We look forward to working with them on future projects."

"We laud Unisys' expertise and the highly successful development and implementation of the new LTO-IT system," Quiambao said.

ASEAN TEACHERS TRAINING

30 teacher-scholars from the six member nations of Asean (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam, Indonesia and the Philippines) were cordially welcomed during the opening ceremonies of the program: 'Teachers Training: Integrating IT in the Classrooms' held at the Meralco Foundation Inc. (MFI) Building on Ortigas recently. Top photo shows the Ambassadors of the Asean nations with the MFI president Col. Alex T. Escaño (fifth from left). Standing (from left) are Ambassadors Ek Sereywath, Cambodia; Nguyen Thac Dinh, Vietnam; U Tin Htun, Myanmar; assistant secretary Toby Melissa Monsod of DTI (guest speaker); Escaño, Phongsavath Keola, Laos; A. Rahim Hasan, Indonesia; Yoshimasa Sakai, Japan; and director Virgilio Fulgencio, National Industrial Manpower Training Council, DTI. Lower photo shows the teacher-scholars and guests at the opening rites.

GMA VISITS BROADBAND BOOTH

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo takes time to visit the exhibit booth of Broadband Philippines at the opening ceremonies of Commasia 2001 held at the World Trade Center in Pasay City. On hand to welcome her was Joey de Venecia, chair and chief executive officer of the country's premier broadband wireless network. Broadband Philippines is investing over P4 billion over the next few years to build what it calls an e-building community in Metro Manila. An e-building community is a network of buildings 'wired' for high-speed Internet access and other communication services.

Gardenia introduces 2-in-1 mocha, cinnamon bread loaf

WHY settle for one when you can have both? Gardenia Bakeries presents two delightful flavors in one amazing loaf.

Gardenia Bakeries (Philippines) Inc., makers of world-class bread products since 1997, now gives you a unique product that allows you to enjoy two treats for the price of one. Gardenia Double Delights is the first and only bread with two distinct flavors baked in one loaf. This new Gardenia Double Treat has Mocha Loca on one side and Cinnamon Swirl on the other.

This innovative Gardenia bread, with its unique packaging design that has an opening on both ends, allows one to conveniently get the flavor that he or she prefers. Whether you're going for the heavenly taste of cinnamon and raisins, the delightful richness of mocha or both, it's as easy as opening the bag.

Gardenia Double Delights Mocha Loca and Cinnamon Swirl is made from choice ingredients that make it truly delicious. Like all Gardenia products, the new Double Delights are bromate-free and vitamin fortified. This makes them the ideal snack--nutritious and delicious.

The packaging of Gardenia Double Delights is closed with the patented G-lock, sealing in the flavor and freshness. It is now available at all leading supermarkets and convenience stores.

WWF
NSERVATIO

REAFFIRMING CONSERVATION COMMITMENT

Megaworld Corp. SVP for corporate management Cirilo Manlangit reaffirms the company's commitment to support environmental conservation by donating P1 million to World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF) Philippines president Lory Tan. Megaworld is one of WWF's conservation allies who commit P1 million annually for three years to support WWF's thrust of preserving the country's biologically diverse marine environment.

BITS & Clips

CEU comedy play

CEU ABSP students will present a classical comedy play titled ''New Yorker in Tondo'' today, Sept. 25, 6 p.m. at CDL 406 Building. This masterpiece of Marcelino Agana, well-loved by students, is directed by Karla Claudine Calonge. Dean Dr. Conrado C. Inigo will award the best performer. PRO of the play is John Erin P. San Gabriel.

Baiphil seminars lined up

THE BANKERS Institute of the Philippines Inc. (Baiphil) announces its forthcoming seminars under the auspices of its Education Committee and Baiphil Training Institute (BTI): Understanding Treasury Management and Operations, Sept. 27 to 29, Training Room, 1st e-Bank; Opportunities in Microfinance, Sept. 25 to 26, Training Room, 1st e-Bank; Risk-Based IT Audit for Banks, Oct. 12, Mondragon House. For registration and other details call the Baiphil Secretariat at 832-5890 to 831-0081.

Intramuros screens classics

IN CELEBRATION of National Week Tourism Week, the DOT-Intramuros Administration and the Cultural Center of the Philippines, in cooperation with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, present Sinehan sa Baluarte, a screening of critically acclaimed and award-winning Filipino films at the Baluarte de Sta. Barbara, Fort Santiago, Intramuros on Sept. 25 to 27. Screening schedule: Sept 25, Tuesday, 9:30 a.m., ''Anak Dalita'' (1956); 2:30 p.m., ''Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang'' (1974); Sept. 26, Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., ''Ganito Kami Noon, Paano Kayo Ngayon?'' (1976); 2:30 p.m., ''Noli Me Tangere'' (1961); Sept. 27, Thursday, 9:30 a.m., ''Kasal'' (1980); 2:30 p.m., ''Biyaya ng Lupa'' (1959). For inquiries, call 527-2961 or 527-3138.

Exporter talks bananas

DID you know that banana plantations earn the country more profits than any other Philippine agricultural product? In recent years, the banana export business has greatly helped in boosting the economy of the Philippines, particularly in Mindanao. As such, the state of international banana trade, how it impacts the local banana industry and strategies to overcome setbacks will be the topic of discussion in the general membership meeting of the Philippine Marketing Association (PMA). Set on Sept. 26 at the Ballroom of the Intercontinental Hotel, the guest speaker is Luis Lorenzo Jr., president of Lapanday Holdings Corp. (LPC). Lorenzo was last year's recipient of PMA's Agora Award for outstanding achievement in export marketing. For inquiries call Lira Ligero at the PMA Secretariat office at 892-3144 and 893-7127.

APFC CHAIR SPEAKS AT BEIJING

Asia-Pacific Franchise Association (APFC) chair Samie Lim (left) was invited by the China Chain Store and Franchise Association (CCSFA) as guest speaker at the Third China Franchise Exhibition and Conference recently at the Beijing International Convention Center. In his speech, Lim talked on the growth of franchising in the Philippines and how the two countries could benefit from the opportunities arising from it. As a result, CCSFA pledged to send a large contingent to the just-concluded Franchise Asia 2001 which was successfully hosted by the Philippines through the Philippine Franchise Association (PFA). Shown with Lim are (from left) Guo Geping, president, CCSFA; Dato Chin Sec Keat, chair, E-optics; Li Ching Chin, founding chair, Taiwan Franchise Association; and Wu Whun Chong, chair, Taiwan Franchise Association.

MONDEX CARD AT ENSEMBLES

Casual elegance meets cashless electronic shopping as Mondex Card, the country's most innovative e-cash card, signs up Ensembles clothing store located at the 3rd level of Robinsons Galleria. Styled for the smart dresser, Ensembles apparel line can be purchased using the totally convenient and secure Mondex payment system. To get your own Mondex Card, or reload cash values to an existing card, simply go to the Mondex top-up station at the Robinsons Galleria Foodcourt level. Then shop at Ensembles as well as in the other fine establishments within the mall, and even earn rewards points per usage through the exciting Mondex Rewards Program. Shown are Maricon dela Peña, partner services officer for Mondex Philippines; Haley Co, marketing officer for Ensembles, and store crew.

NORTHWEST AIRLINES MEAL PRESENTATION

Northwest Airlines recently introduced a new set of menu for its World Business Class passengers. Six Filipino brunch selections and six other international dishes, including fresh fruits are now being served alternately to Northwest's most valued passengers. Shown are Northwest Airlines general manager for the Philippines, Guam and Micronesia Laurie Lofgren, Northwest customer service manager Geraldine Gonzales, Miascor catering chef Georges Egli, Northwest-Manila station manager Maricris Dizon, Northwest marketing and communications manager for the Philippines, Guam and Micronesia Candy Ochoa and Gate Gourmet general manager Stephen Gervais.

PHILAM PLANS AWARDS TOP PERFORMERS

Philam Plans recently awarded certificates of recognition to top sales counselors from the Manila North sales division in lavish ceremonies at the Guilin Chinese Restaurant in Sulo Hotel. Present to hand over the awards were Manila North senior assistant vice president Francis Littau senior vice president and head of marketing Luie Dy Buncio (right).

World GDP faces 2.2% drop in 2002

LONDON—The terrorist blitz on the United States on Sept. 11 will result in a fall of 2.2 percent in gross domestic product (GDP) worldwide next year and of 1.2 percent in Britain, an economic research unit has predicted.

Projections of worldwide GDP for 2002 have been sliced by $466.71 billion (746.73 billion euros), the Center for Economics and Business Research said in a report.

The projections compound fears of a looming global economic recession in the wake of the attacks, which flattened the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York and killed more than 6,000 people.

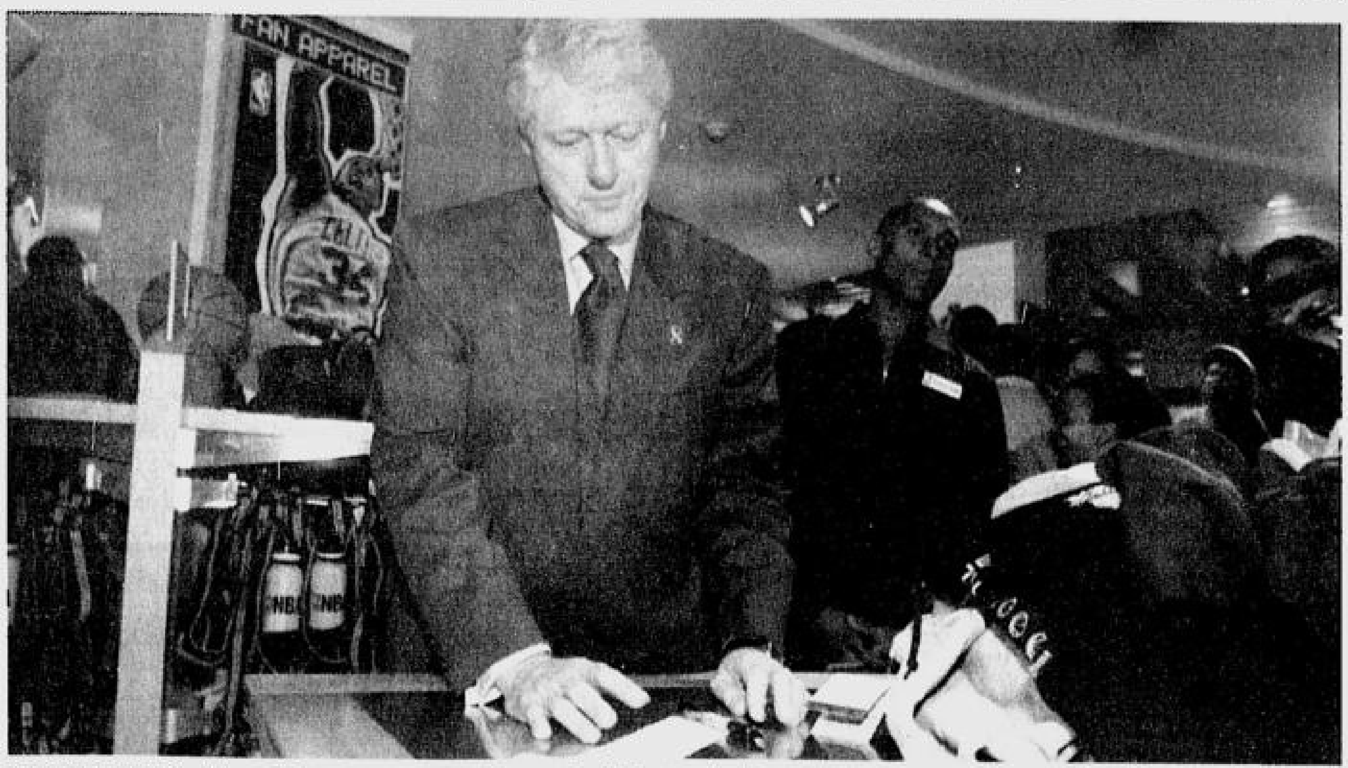
"The predictions we made three months ago were already more pessimistic than those of most economic analysts, and had the terrible events not happened we would have left the numbers more or less unchanged," report author Douglas McWilliams said.

"Although the outlook is highly uncertain, we are clear that in the short term the world economy has been dealt a blow which will depress world growth for at least the next nine months and possibly for longer."

McWilliams said the projections are based on three factors—that there are no further terrorist attacks, that expected reprisals by the US do "not destabilize the world economy further," and public spending in the US is increased.

"Clearly the outcomes could be much worse than this. But we have had to choose a set of base assumptions and these look as likely as any," he told BBC television late Sunday.

AFP



FORMER US President Clinton buys sweatshirts at the NBA store in New York Friday, Sept. 21, 2001.

US economy to get worse before it gets better, says experts

WASHINGTON—Despite a $1.4-trillion loss in US market value last week in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks on US targets, the US economy will rebuild, experts and lawmakers said Sunday, though it may get worse first.

"You're going to see unemployment numbers, if I had to guess, that will hit 6 percent fairly soon," General Electric's recently retired chief executive Jack Welch, arguably the most successful CEO ever, told Fox News Sunday.

"And we are going to go through a dislocation, not unlike in the marketplace, not unlike we did after Kuwait, when we had a GDP (gross domestic product) that was down 3 percent or 5 percent, or when Ronald Reagan took over in 1981, we had a 5 percent."

Aviation, tourism and related service industries were crushed on Wall Street in the worst financial week since the Great Depression, when the benchmark Dow Jones industrial average plummeted 14.3 percent.

The index hovers tenuously around its worst mark since October 1998 ahead of Monday's opening bell, which will kick off a market that traders are optimistically calling a haven for buyers.

"It's clear that the economy has had some very significant short-term disruptions," said Abby Joseph Cohen of the investment banking powerhouse Goldman Sachs.

At least 115,000 layoffs were announced, mostly in aviation, and consumer confidence, once the cornerstone of US economic might, took devastating hits that could reverberate into the long term.

A $15-billion aid package voted Friday to be rushed to the airline industry is only the second in a series of much-needed government stimulus packages to restabilize the teetering US economy, liberal Democratic Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts said Sunday.

The $40 billion ordered by President George W. Bush—partially to finance the rebuilding of New York after two hijacked planes slammed into and destroyed the landmark twin towers of the World Trade Center—was the first.

"I think we have to pump money that's in the system out as rapidly as possible," he told CBS's Face the Nation.

Added Arizona's John McCain on the same program: "I think we've got to spend some money, and I say that as a proud fiscal conservative, and not worry too much at this particular moment in time about the deficit."

The measures to rebuild the economy, already at risk before the September 11 attacks, are in place, Cohen said, adding that restoring consumer confidence, particularly among working families, should be a priority.

Welch, who in 2000 and until mid-2001 presided over GE, a company that earned $129.9 billion in revenue last year, suggested the federal tax cut for families earning under $100,000 be accelerated.

"It's not that expensive. I'd move the 2006 plan forward to now," he told Fox News.

"I wouldn't do it overnight. But I wouldn't wait a long time. This economy and our surplus are strong enough that we can handle this."

Federal Reserve Chair Alan Greenspan said Thursday that the US economy will "recover and prosper" after the attacks, which left more than 6,800 people dead or missing, and urged caution not to lose sight of US "longer-run prospects, which have not been significantly diminished."

Though the Fed cut interest rates by a half-point last Monday, when the markets reopened after being shuttered for four days, Greenspan said economic stimulus packages from Congress were premature, a decision criticized by Kerry.

"I think we have to have a stimulus package immediately that accelerates certain kinds of investment projects—whether it's railroad, road, airports, even something as prosaic as a sewer overflow—for mayors all across the country," he said.

Cohen, though subdued in her estimation of the haste with which the economy would bounce back, remained unfailingly optimistic.

"Keep in mind that the people on Wall Street went to work last week. We walked past the ash, we walked past the smoldering ruins, but our banking system worked extraordinarily well. The financial markets operated smoothly. And that really is the story."

AFP

HK sees growing gap between rich and poor

HONG KONG—Hong Kong is seeing a growing gap between rich and poor as welfare groups warn increased number of people are living below the poverty line, reports showed Monday.

"I'm worried the situation will worsen," as the recovery of the global economy has been set back by the terrorist attacks in the United States, said Li Kin-wah, spokesperson for the Livelihood 21, an alliance comprising more than 20 welfare groups.

Li called on the government to set up an "anti-poverty" committee and use financial reserves to create more jobs.

The alliance in its latest survey found some 1.24 million people, out of Hong Kong's 6.7 million population, were living below the poverty line last year with an average income of less than 2,250 Hong Kong dollars ($289) per month.

A total of 1.23 million were living below the poverty line in 1999.

The alliance sets the poverty line at 2,550 dollars a month per household, calculated as half of the average household's monthly income of 5,100 dollars.

It said children under 15 living in poor households topped the poverty population list at 29.2 percent, followed by people over 65 at 26.9 percent.

There is no official poverty line in Hong Kong because officials say poor families can apply for comprehensive social security assistance, while heavily subsidized public housing, medicine and education are available to the majority of Hong Kong's residents.

But the economy is weakening as Hong Kong's unemployment rate rose to a year high of 4.9 percent in the three months to August amid sluggish growth.

AFP

Taiwan's jobless rate hits new high of 5.17%

TAIPEI—Taiwan's jobless rate hit a new high of 5.17 percent in August as more fresh graduates entered the job market and businesses closed during the prolonged economic slowdown, officials said Monday.

The unemployment rate was up from the previous high of 4.92 percent in July, according to the Directorate General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (DGBAS).

The DGBAS said 512,000 people were out of work in August—a rise of 27,000 from a month earlier.

The August jobless figure mainly reflected month-on-month increases of 13,000 people who lost their jobs due to business closures or cutbacks and 10,000 first-time job seekers who failed to find work, it said.

More than 3,700 Taiwanese factories closed in the eight months to August—up 31 percent from last year — as the economy declined sharply, the economic ministry said.

Taiwan's economy suffered its biggest quarterly fall in 26 years of 2.35 percent year-on-year in the three months to June, and is expected to decline over the full year for the first time since authorities began collating statistics.

The DGBAS predicted unemployment over the whole of 2001 to exceed 4.3 percent.

"Based on the current trends of employment, we should expect the unemployment rate to exceed 4.3 percent this year," DGBAS' bureau of census deputy director Chen Jin-cherng said.

Asked whether the unemployment rate would stay above 5 percent for the remainder of this year, Chen said it was still too early to make predictions.

"In the past, the unemployment rate usually retreats after August, but we are not sure whether this will recur this year," he said.

AFP

Wall Street braces for more losses

WASHINGTON—Wall Street was poised to open Monday amid fear of a continuing downward spiral, after the worst week of trading since the Great Depression cast gloom over stocks in other countries.

The New York stock market lost $1.4 trillion in five successive days of sharp drops last week, in the wake of the Sept. 11 terror attacks on US targets.

Lawmakers and experts are predicting that the US economy ultimately will rebound, but said the situation was likely to get worse before it gets better.

"We are going to go through a dislocation, not unlike in the marketplace, not unlike we did after Kuwait, when we had a GDP (gross domestic product) that was down 3 percent or 4 percent, or when Ronald Reagan took over in 1981, and we had a negative 5 percent," said Jack Welch, the recently retired chief executive of General Electric, speaking on "Fox News Sunday."

In particular, aviation, tourism and related service industries were crushed on Wall Street last week, when the benchmark Dow Jones industrial average plummeted 14.3 percent.

Shares nosedived last Monday when the markets reopened after being shuttered for four days following the attacks.

Traders now are hopeful that a round of intensive buying by bargain helps propel the stock market higher and US lawmakers on Sunday urged American consumers to do their part to help the recovery.

AFP

BEING THE WORLD'S #1 PC COMPANY IS A TOUGH ACT TO FOLLOW. WE SHOULD KNOW.

We didn't get there for nothing. We laid our foundation on configuration stability, serviceability, reliability and manageability. Our pillars are on performance and features. Above all, what drives us to excel is our inspiration which stems from understanding the unique business needs of our clients.

The Dell™ line of desktops and notebooks. So powerful, it has revolutionized the world's workstyle.

DELL™ OPTIPLEX™ GX150SD
- Intel® Pentium® III processor 1GHz
- 128 MB RAM
- 20GB Hard Disk Drive
- 48X CD-ROM
- 3.5" 1.44MB FDD
- Integrated 3Com 10/100 PCI Ethernet Controller
- Integrated Sound Card
- 17" Color Monitor
- Microsoft® Windows® 98
- 3-Years Limited Warranty (1-Year On-Site Service)

Promo Price Php52,950

DELL™ LATITUDE™ CPxJ 650
- Intel® Pentium® III processor 650MHz
- 128MB RAM
- 20GB Hard Disk Drive
- 3.5" 1.44MB FDD
- 14.1" XGA Color TFT Active Matrix Display
- Dual Pointing Device (Touchpad & Track Stick)
- Smart Lithium Ion Battery
- Carrying Case
- Microsoft® Windows® 98
- 3-Years Limited Warranty (1-Year On-Site Service)
- Free Xircom REX Organizer
- Free HP DeskJet 340c

Promo Price Php99,950

DELL™ LATITUDE™ L400
- Intel® Pentium® III processor 700MHz
- 128MB RAM
- 20GB Hard Disk Drive
- 24X CD-ROM
- 3.5" 1.44MB FDD
- 12.1" XGA Color TFT Active Matrix Display
- Integrated 10/100-Base TX PCI Bus Master Ethernet
- 56KBps Modem
- Smart Lithium Ion Battery
- Carrying Case
- Microsoft® Windows® 98
- 3-Years Limited Warranty (1-Year On-Site Service)
- Free Xircom REX Organizer and Vanguard Bag (While supplies last)

Promo Price Php129,950

Give your business the computing solution you need. Call our local Dell distributor now to speak with an expert about the computing solution that's right for you

ACCENT-MICRO TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
A member of the Accent Micro Group of Companies
Manila : Suite 1408 14F Antel Global Corporate Center, Julia Vargas Ave, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Cebu : Suite 705 7F Golden Peak Tower, Gorordo Ave, cor. N. Escario St. Cebu City
E-mail to sales@amti.com.ph.

Dell™ PCs use genuine Microsoft® Windows® www.microsoft.com/piracy/howtotell

DELL'S NORMAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY AND ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE OR UPON REQUEST. Pricing, specifications and availability subject to change without notice. All efforts will be made to check for errors in typography and photography; however inadvertent errors may occur for which Dell may not be responsible. Dell, the Dell logo, Optiplex and Latitude are registered trademarks or trademarks of Dell Computer Corporation. Microsoft and Windows are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. Intel, the Intel Inside Logo and Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. Other trademarks and trade names may be used in this document to refer to either the entities claiming marks and names or their products. Dell disclaims proprietary interest in the marks and names of others. Copyright 2001 Dell Computer Corporation. All rights reserved.

intel inside pentium® III

DELL

BUY DELL
MANILA 637 3254/636 3563
CEBU 032 233 7933/233 7937
OR VISIT www.amti.com.ph

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P230 per column centimeter
P65 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays 12:00 noon Day before publication
Sundays 12:00 noon every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

Cosmetic Surgery 50% DISCOUNT
Nose ; Breast ; Facelift ; Hair Transplant ; Lipo Eyebag / Split Ear Repair
Call 723-2223 / 724-8963

RAPID Tx VD-STD
SCARS Ex SWEAT ALLERGIES
15 Annapolis, Greenhills
Call 7276124 to 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD CLINIC T8175071 MATRINCO BLDG. 2178 PTAMO MKT 9-2pm

PERSONAL

COSMETOLOGY

FACIAL SKINCARE
Training/ Workshop
8956031 L2011 OR 8971832

HEALTH/FITNESS

BE SLIM 2443937

•Learn massage in 2 days guaranteed P3500 w/cert. home service 09198457226

MASSAGE

ASK JAMES M/F 24 HRS SERVICES 8511883 100% HDSME

Aldrin•Masseur•704-8757

Ask DJ 0919-5973709 (M)

GIGOLO 815-1168

H-H-MS Male 7314018

Male 16 Palanan 7320659

Male Masseur 4101234

MASSAGE FRED 8513462

M/F Home/Hotel 432-0118

SPICEBOYS 5758150

UNWIND M/F Mkt 7520437

REFLEXOLOGY

BANAWE SPA M&F 7411426

D'Millenium M/F T9347633

Edgar Reflex 7503640 HHS

Edward Reflex 7289285

Reflex 09196658730/8445117

REFLEX CARLA 716-4898

REFLEX CLEOFE 729-8258

Reflex Cynthia 8050681

TUTORIAL LESSONS

Ace Tutors (since 1984). Call 647-1164

•Adept Tutors @ 8833671

LA LUZ 5268216/70

MISCELLANEOUS

VIP-SERVICE-24HRS 8312373 Romy

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

Lowest Ofc.Fee + LowRate Maid Call GSEA 9287096

BEST MAID 7111602/7118227

★ ANNIVERSARY PROMO ★
Lowest Office Fee
Prov'l & City All Around
Maids Cook Yaya H's Boy
Available Nationwide
Las Pinas: 873-7057 • 872-0265
Cubao: 912-4701 • 913-4235
Zapote: 873-1433 • 873-7055
Munti & Pque: 807-5788 • 853-3505

Help Agency 5328376/5321947

MaidsBoy Driver 4141135;7114693

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9260424•

CLOSE VAN 7320744/7327806

L-BAHAY 8383742/5447599

LBAHAY 7113540

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

HOUSEHOLD

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

LIPAT BAHAY w/5 helpers 24 hrs. svc 7128861 / 7315750

•LIPAT•731-6833

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

RIZAL

Safe of Flood and Faultline
NR ORTIGAS EXT
RIDGMONT Executive Vill
CAINTA New 3BR 2Carport
FRENCH Strong bung Lot: 172m² P2.2M 9488240/9334971

VARIOUS AREAS

Taft 856m² P25T/m²
Cubao 1600m² P30T/m²
0917-4060204 / 5100374

HOUSE & LOT

MANILA

MAKATI ZOBEL ROXAS
BNew Thse 4sty/3br/3tb/grge P3.050M up 8903461 loc 34

MANDALUYONG

Various Mand. Lots & Hse & Lots • 534-6610 Jojo

MARIKINA

Grnlnd bnew 3br 2M 9487112

QUEZON CITY

605.5m² 4BR/Sct.Torillo nr.Timog Call:9280512 c/o Ms.Lopez

Green Meadows 4BR 28M LA-805sqm • 412-1825

Mayon St. House & Lots 960sqm • 534-6610 Jojo

New Manila Hemady 1000m² w/Pool Big Lawn 671-4421

Nr Ateneo 7M &up 6453731

Robinson Subd. Bside Mall Novaliches 9612353 Johny

Xaviervil P7.5M 915-5177

RIZAL

Bentley Park Subd LA108 FA100 3br2tb 09178143792

SAN JUAN

Ghills SEV P20M; 30M; 45M & Up • 723-2391

GREENHILLS WEST
FRONTING XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL, 2STY CONC. HSE 6BR/7TB W/MAIDS RM. DRIVERS RM 9CG W/GOOD BUS. 722-1832

PROVINCIAL

•House & Lot For Sale•
240sqm Canlubang Laguna
Tel#:(049)5491095 or 1377

OTHER AREAS

2sty4BR 1mdrm 3TB H&C Jacuzzi strong H2O fully furnish elegant 12.5M Maridel T-6391862

RUSH!CanyonWoods Btngas 6.5M 0919-2045695

NO DP P2,349/mo 2926137

LOT

LAS PINAS

Rush Sale Commercial Lot
Along Nat'l Rd Las Pinas
1hectare 8424213 8420335
8078225 DBO @ 4K

RIZAL

240m² 195TMontalban 5455380

SAN JUAN

Ghills 600-750-1000sm SEV DBO 723-2391

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

SAN JUAN

• Little Baguio •
300-600sqm • 723-2391

PROVINCIAL

ATTENTION
Manufacturers & Investors
Cavite Light Industrial Park
Ready for Construction
2 years to pay w/o Interest
Along Maguyam Road
Carmona, Cavite
Tel. # 635-8108 - Jonathan

GOVERNOR'S DRV, CAVITE P3T/SQ, 5 YRS-PAY, 242-1521

La Residencia Sta. Rosa Nice Subd. P1M • 671-4421

Sherwood Cavite 345sqm Blk. 11 Lot 3 • 723-2391

Tagaytay 2Adj Lots 780sqm and 805sqm • 723-2391

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

ALABANG

Condo Aspen Tower 1BR Sale/Rent • 915-5177

LAS PINAS

BFR 1.7M 3BR 2TB 8428853

MANILA

Apt nr UST P9.3M 9126833

MANDALUYONG

Condo Pioneer High Lands 3BR Sale/Rent • 915-5177

Low Price Various Condos & Thses • 5346610 Jojo

Madison Suites 1BR 2.6M 412-1825 • 0917-7914366

Madison Suites 2BR 4M Md's, Carpark • 412-1825

No Down Payment
Pre-Selling/Ready 30% D.P.
dulcecondo@edsamail.com.ph
0919-3901710 Dulce

Var. Wack Wack Condo @ Low Prices • 534-6610 Jojo

PASIG

RUSH! Renaissance 2000 DBO 2br+2tb 09178143792

Townhouse DJT Pasig 3BR • 915-5177

QUEZON CITY

Cubao Condo "EZ" Term P1.3M 9132224 9124428 4381480

Nr New Manila 4BRs 2CG FA-230m² P5.5M 671-4421

RUSH! TSora 3BR+1md 2TB P2.5M DBO 0917-8143792

TH Ayala Montgomery 6M Up Nr. St. Lukes 915-5177

SAN JUAN

Araullo nr Shaw Blvd. 2BR Secured P3.5M • 671-4421

OTHER AREAS

Condo Narra Hts. Mariposa Nice 3BR P5.2M • 915-5177

Townhouse Horseshoe 3BR Tel.# 915-5177

VARIOUS AREAS

Thse Woodside NMla 5.5M Up; DJT Pasig 3.5M 9166177

MEMORIAL LOT

For Cremation Vaults Fort Boni P65T Call • 671-4421

Heritage Park Buy Now! For Viewing Call • 671-4421

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

KALOOCAN

2B/R U-D 3620065 Briones 7Ave

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

OTHER AREAS

CB RICHARD ELLIS
Managed Brand New Residential Units
Essensa East Forbes
Fort Bonifacio, Global City
Luxury 3 BR, 290m²
Classica Tower
Salcedo Vill., Makati
123BR 43-157m²
18-85K UF/FF
Burgundy Westbay Tower
V.Cruz-Taft nr. Lasalle
123BR 14-37K
coml/ofc 42-90m²
Oxford Suites
P. Burgos St., Makati
Std., 1BR furnished
Other properties available:
752-2580
759-4091
848-7388
0917-8381928
0917-8112635
manila@cbrichardellis.com

APARTMENT

MANDALUYONG

1BR Couple, 1Child, Maid w/Garage P5.5T 532-4446

Nr. Chali 2BR 10T, STD 7T Boni STD 6.5-7T 373-0587

SAN JUAN

Up/dwn 2BR 2TB w/grge 920-6694/925-1348/49

HOUSE

LAS PINAS

3BR Bung Tel/Grg 9T/mo Strong H'O Call Greg 365-5370 • 920-0169 PM

PASIG

Dona Juana Subd. Pasig P4.1M 3BR • 915-5177

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

Regency Salcedo Village Penthse P125T • 915-5177

PASIG

Ortigas Ctr. 2&3BR 20-35T 412-1825 • 0917-7914366

VVere 3BR FFur P40-50T Gilmore 3BR P45T 723-2391

QUEZON CITY

Burgundy Loyola Katip. Pkg 2BR P25T • 915-5177

Prince David Loyola 1BR P2.5M • 915-5177

Thse Woodside New Mla. Tel.# 915-5177

SAN JUAN

Condo LPL Greenhills 1BR Furn P17T • 915-5177

OTHER AREAS

PACIFIC PLAZA FORT Condo • 915-5177

.Paragon Plaza EDSA 2BR P33T FF • 915-5177

FOR LEASE

2sty. bldg. Taguig 5455380

Comml Lot N. Domongo SJ w/Whse LA1600 • 915-5177

EDSA & MAND. 952-0330

North Harbor vlot 2000-1has 0917-4060204

OFFICE SPACE Makati 50-750m² 8185362/8448318

Ortigas Center 250-1000m² @ 250/m² • 412-1825

VLot Edsa Manda LA245m² 915-5177 • 0917-5325440

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

ROOM & BOARD

Mktl Apartal 500-700/day 3T-4.2T/wk/kit/tel/CR 8996366

BUSINESS RENTAL

21 Timog 400m² P200T neg. 50m² P15T Office 373-0587

Com'l Space 4 Rent 157 Kamias Ext.9206694/9251348

Medical Plz Ortigas 40 60 75m² 4121825 09177914366

Nr BUENDIA along PTAMO 38/65/62/185m² 1st Class Bldg. 8903461 loc 34 or 19 ofc hrs.

Pque 4Lease Off Spaces & Whse 4Info Call 687-1806

Prestige Twr 65sqm A/C Lights 1Carpk • 412-1825

STORE SPACE FOR RENT 10-14 SQM 7355741/43

STORE WID ROLL UP DOOR 524 EDSA CALOOCAN 3610652

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

TOYOTA

FX Taxi 120T 0917-3874795

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

L3•Cars• 9273453 4538295

BNew Pregio L3 826-1045

Bnew Hiace L3 MB 8257135

CAR VANS 413-5383

Van Coaster Bus 913-91-23

FXcheaprates3730584Cathy

L300 T 4161105 / 7411356

L300/Vans 578-8917(Roger)

Cheap Vans 493-1802 749-1182

P800/L3 9136710/4333682

SELF-DRIVE
New CARS/VANS-ALL BRANDS
ABC 5368822/3039789

STAREX L300 CARS 7268388

Udrive CARS VANS 8006595

WANTED TO BUY

We Buy Cars Spot Cash
712-4680 • 0915-7010510

CAR LOAN

2% w/o taking car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 3732083

2%w/oTakingCar8966630/33

Car Sangla•Spot Cash!
LOWEST % 740-6192/5692

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

ELECTRONIC & INDUSTRIAL EQUIP

Farmtrotors Sale 3672002 Kubota•Iseki• 3610215

PETS

Dog Trainer 09192050952

MALE ROTT PUP SHOWQTY Bighead 3 1/2 mos. 3633933

SPORTING GOODS

B.Table B'new w/accessories •8014494/8020566•

Imported Billiard 22T, 35T complete acc's •8618714/16 •8613123 •8613125•

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

SPORTING GOODS

New Billiard P18.5T P22T P25T Ok C.Card 781-9453

STRIKEMASTER
Bowling & Billiards
Sales & Rentals T-9341569

WANTED TO BUY

ANY ROLEX
Buy / Sell / Pawn / Repair
Tel# 804-0484 • 834-2886

B/SELL FUL PD EDUC PLAN 7137284•09177939632

BUYING ROLEX
others, High Price CASH CALL 09178142309/7269687

Partly used Educ 6469097

Buy/Pawn Diamonds T834-2886

MISCELLANEOUS

ID strap LogoPin 656-8605

TAKARA BARBERS CHAIR 920-6694/925-1348/49

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE/FEMALE

•10 URGENT NEEDED OFC• Personel 913-4470 Helen

•20 Ofc Staff 9168033 Ace

CARE GIVER T5280722

Direct Hire Ofc Staff 9134470 Start ASAP Jelly

LEMY JEWELRY Phils. Inc.
Urgent:Male or Female
•SALES EXECUTIVE•
w/experience Pls. Call
(049)5491095 or 1377

•Admin Staff 9134470 Ayna•

OFC STAFF 9134470 Carl

•Ofc Staff 9134470 Daisy•

STORE PERSONNEL
At least HS Graduate, not over 30 yrs. old w/computer knowledge. Call: 636-3006 c/o Mimi or Sid for Mall Photo Shop (Kodak)

•URGENT•OFC STAFF 4 Co. Xpansion 4376847 Joyce

Wanted Immediately!!!
SALES AGENTS
Male or Female ; Good Commission T5345926-27

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

-H-U-R-R-Y-! •for bidding• 15-unit trucks 2 b recon CALL:6992032/0492476932

AUCTION SALE

NUESTRA-DAMUS-PAWNSHOP MAKATI CITY. Auction Sale on October 6, 2001 all unredeemed pledges during the month of May 1-31, 2001. Nuestra Br. II Pio-9:30am; Nuestra Br. I 10:30am; Nuestra Br. VI-11:30am; Damus Br. I Pasong Tamo-12:30pm; Nuestra Main-JP - 1:30pm; Nuestra Br. IX Zapote-3:00pm. Sons of J. Lanuza-Auctioneer.

NUESTRA-DIAJADE PAWNSHOP Las Pinas & Pque Metro Manila. Will have its auction sale on October 9, 2001. All unredeemed pledges during the month of May 1-31, 2001. Diajade Main-9:30am; Nuestra Sucat-8:30am; Diajade Br. II-10:30am; Nuestra Br. III-11:30am; Diajade Br. I 1:00pm; Nuestra Almanza-2:00pm. Sons of J. Lanuza-Auctioneer.

SAY Pawnshop 116-A sole Dad Ave. Bls., Pque ALL exp items 11/02/01

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Earn $400/Wk PT T522-0778

FORMULAS! FIREPROOFING! DATING GAME! VOICE MAIL! Call 647-1164

PROFIT FROM THE INTERNET Rated#1 Internet franchise. Full Training/Support. No experience req. T-1 888 678 7588 ghl@worldsites.net

RTW 4 Tiange Bazar3738821

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
Pambansang Korporasyon sa Elektrisidad
(NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION)

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID
AD NO. TRANSCO 2001-01

Bidding Date : October 16, 2001 - 10:00 AM
Pre-Bid Conference : October 09, 2001 - 2:00 PM
(Sampaguita Room)

TWENTY (20) UNITS - PROTECTION SIGNALING EQUIPMENT (PSE) COMPLETE WITH ALL NECESSARY INTERFACE CABLES

Interested parties are invited to prequalify and to submit sealed bids on the above using TWO (2) ENVELOPE SYSTEM to be opened publicly at the Sampaguita Rm., Ground Floor, Bldg. 2, NPC-OBC, Quezon Ave. cor. Agham Rd., Diliman, Quezon City.

Accreditation forms can be obtained from Mondays thru Fridays at the Accreditation and Bidding Support Services, Materials Management Department, Ground Floor, Bldg. 2, NPC-OBC, Diliman, Q.C., upon payment of **P50.00**, submission of company's TIN and proof of listing at the Metro Manila telephone directory. Deadline for submission of duly accomplished accreditation forms to participate in this bidding is on **October 3, 2001.**

Bidding documents are available on **September 24** to **October 08, 2001** **upon payment of P50.00 which is non-refundable, and presentation of the certificate of accreditation.**

Issuance of accreditation forms and bidding documents shall be **mornings only, 8:30 to 11:30 AM**. For inquiries, please call no. 921-25-74.

The Corporation reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any defect therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the Corporation.

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIVISION
NPC-OBC (Head Office)
Diliman, Quezon City

(PDI--Sept. 24, 25 & 27, 2001)

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

RTW P28 up/caps 727-4934

SAVE WISELY BE HAPPIER
Earn 60% Interest a year
0917-8349338 (Dave)

SUPER TIANGGE PROMO
Pay 2mos. get 1 mo. free exhibit start Oct.1 up to Dec. P7T/month Stall rental T9257212/9257365 Melvin

WEEKLY 4,800 CASH!
Catch the wave today! 800-4226

Work from Home w/ travel 942-5697 / 0917-9991216

PUBLIC NOTICES

PERSONAL

ALUDIA,

May today & the days ahead bring happiness, love and all the special blessings that you deserve.

Enjoy your day!
Take care,

JOHN M.D.Y.

NOVENA TO THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS
May the most Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, blessed, loved, adored and glorified throughout the whole world now and forever. Amen.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PERSONAL

NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. JUDE
O, HOLY ST. JUDE apostle and martyr, great in virtue, rich in miracles, near in kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present, urgent petition (make your request). In return, I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. Saint Jude, pray for us and all who invoke your aid. Pray this nine times a day for nine consecutive days. On the eighth day your prayers will be answered.

New Manila 5BR 3Cargrge Beautiful Hse Call 7001111

Invite 2.8 million people to come inside your house.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS The Widest Read Classifieds

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER enjoys the biggest circulation and readership among all the major broadsheets in the country. It has a dominant market share of over 50% according to the 1999 Asia Research Organization (ARO) Tri-Media Study.

TYT '2000 4-wheel drive P1.4M Neg. T-3456781

Invite 2.8 million people to test drive your car.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS The Widest Read Classifieds

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER enjoys the biggest circulation and readership among all the major broadsheets in the country. It has a dominant market share of over 50% according to the 1999 Asia Research Organization (ARO) Tri-Media Study.

Classified Advertising Division
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

RATE
₱230 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

CANDELARIA LORETO DIZON

of Bagac, Bataan

Peacefully joined her Creator and husband
on September 20, 2001 at the age of 95.

Her bereaved children **CECILIO & LUCIANA** (nee Concepcion), **RICARDO** (†) **& ALICIA** (nee Santiago) (†), **LEONORA & REYNALDO A. MENDOZA, RODOLFO & CARIDAD** (nee de Guia), **ESTELITA**; grandchildren **AGNES & RICARDO DELOS REYES** (Arvin, Carlo & Beatriz), **JAY & BERYL MENDOZA** (Jel, Jenny & RJ), **ALLAN & MARIE DIZON** (Monique, Krina & Lawrence), **BOBBY & FATIMA DIZON** (Ben, David & Angelica) & **BERNADETTE**; sister **AMALIA LUNA, TINA TOLENTINO**; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapel, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on September 27, 2001 at La Loma Cemetery, Kalookan City after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Cezar Dizon Baron MD, C.P.H., P.A.

Former Asst. Provincial
Health Officer of Tarlac, Tarlac

Died in the Grace of our Lord on September 22, 2001 at the age of 91.

His loving daughter **Josie** and **Bernie** and children **Philip** and **Mariqui**, **Joanne** and **Arnel**, **Cecille**, **Emilie** and **Jun** and together with grandchildren, sister **Naning** and great grandchildren request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Funeraria Pangilinan, Sto. Entiero St., Angeles City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, September 26, 2001 after the 9:15 a.m. Mass at the Holy Rosary Parish Church.

> ***"...absent with the body to be present with the Lord."***
> *2 Cor. 5:8*

ROBERTO SILVA VINZON

Lawyer, Educator, Gentleman-farmer

Now peacefully rests in the Infinite Grace and Goodness
of the Lord on the 23rd of September 2001 at the age of 79.

His loving wife **EDENG**; children and grandchildren request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City and will be transferred to Samal, Bataan on Thursday, 27 September 2001.

Interment will be on Saturday, 29 September 2001 at the Orani Memorial Park, Orani, Bataan after the 1 p.m. Mass.

> ***"We know that God raised the Lord Jesus from death. He will raise us to life with Jesus. He will present us along with you, to God."***
> *2 Cor. 4:14*

CARIDAD VISTAN RAYMUNDO

Widow of the late FELIXBERTO J. RAYMUNDO

Peacefully joined our Lord on September 23, 2001 at the age of 78.

Her bereaved children **CHIT, EDDIE** and **PRECY, CARMEN** and **MIKE CARL, LINDA** and **DAVE JOHNSTON, JOSIE** and **MANNY ESTACION, RIQUI, EVELYN** and **JOE PICCIO, RAMON** and **JUDY, RENE** and **CARINA ROLAND** and **SHIRLEY, JEANNIE, LOU, TEL** and **GENE SERRANO, CAI** and **NORIE LUCIANO**, and **LIZ**; grandchildren, great grandchildren, brothers and sisters request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS, Dr. A. Santos Avenue, Parañaque City.

Interment will follow after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Trinity on Saturday, September 29, 2001 at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City.

Luz Hermosa Estanislao

of Manila and Dinalupihan, Bataan

Born - November 16, 1924
Died in the Grace of our Lord on September 22, 2001 at the age of 76.

Her bereaved husband **Ret. Judge Vicente M. Estanislao, Sr.**; brothers and sisters **Fabiana, Calixto** (†), **Eufemia, Jose, Carmelita, Francisco** (†), **Natalia, Gloria** and **Roberto**; children and in-laws **Eugenio** and **Lourdes, Vicente, Jr.** and **Sarah, Atty. Luisito** and **Melinda, Carlos** and **Mary Ann, Prescy** and **Mario, Myrna** and **Victor**; grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends request readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Chapel C-1, La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Friday, 28 September 2001 at the Manila Memorial Park in Sucat, Parañaque after the 12:00 noon Mass at La Funeraria Paz, Chapel C-1, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

SIR ANGELITO GURTIZA ABUEG

Council #12206 Sagrada Familia,
Bagumbayan, Taguig

Has joined his Creator on September 08, 2001
at Dallah Hospital in Riyadh, K.S.A. at the age of 49.

His wife **RIZA**; children **JESUSA ANGELA, GILBERT ANGELITO, ALFRED JOSEPH, JAN RICHELIEU**; mother **DOLORES**; sister, in-laws, relatives, brother knights and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Royal Chapel of HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS, Dr. A. Santos Avenue, Parañaque City.

He will be laid to rest on Saturday, September 29, 2001, 9:00 a.m. at Loyola Memorial Park, Dr. A. Santos Avenue, Parañaque City.

JUDGE CECILIO F. WYCOCO

of Cabiao and Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija

Past President - Regional Trial Court
Judges Association of Nueva Ecija

Past President - Integrated Bar of the Philippines
Nueva Ecija Chapter

Past President - Rotary Club of Cabanatuan
1976-1977 1977-1978

Member - University of Sto. Tomas
Law Alumni Foundation, Inc.

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord on September 23, 2001.

His loving wife **Nita**; sons **IPDG Eric Wycoco** of Rotary District 3770 and **Yolly**; **Dr. Rommel Wycoco** and **Lizette**; grandchildren **Ronald, Joseph, Kaye, Carlo** and **Angelo**; brothers and sisters request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the family residence at #78 Doña Encarnacion Avenue, Kapt. Pepe Subdivision, Cabanatuan City.

Interment will be on Saturday, September 29, 2001 at the Crypt of the Cabanatuan Cathedral after the 8:00 AM Mass at Santuario de Santo Niño Chapel, Kapt. Pepe Subdivision, Cabanatuan City.

> ***"Eternal life will swallow up that which can die. God made us for this very reason and He has given us the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again."***
> *2 Corinthians 5:4-5*

> ***"From darkness let the light shine!"***
> *Genesis 1:3*

NARCISO P. ZALVIDEA

Peacefully joined his Creator on September 24, 2001
at the age of 88.

His bereaved wife **RITA**; children **OSCAR** and **JAIME**; daughter-in-law **JOSEFINA**; grandchildren **NOEL, JAMES, CAMILLE**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Lourdes Church, Retiro, Quezon City.

Interment will be on September 27, 2001 at North Cemetery after the 9 a.m. Mass.

REAL ESTATE

CESAR D. MANGAWANG, Editor

Industrial park expands facilities

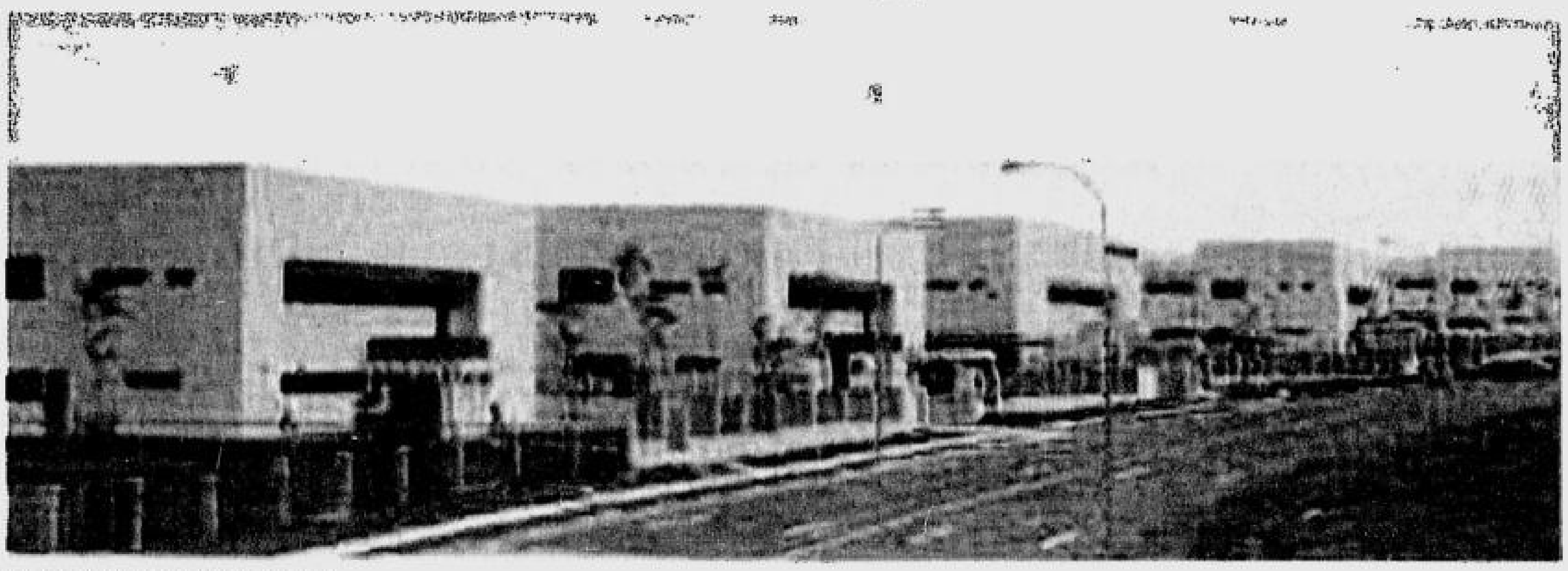
BY TESSA R. SALAZAR

A 145-HECTARE industrial park in Calamba, Laguna, had a field day in the Philippines with its ready-built facilities and build-to-suit units in its Phase 1 now more than 90 percent occupied since commercial operations started two years ago.

Now, the fiber-optic equipped Carmelray Industrial Park II—which has captured 35 locators so far—is ready for the second phase of development so it could provide additional ready-to-built facilities and build-to-suit units.

Phase 2 will occupy 13 hectares of land, entailing a further investment of $20 million.

Phase 1 comprises 10 hectares, with a total investment of $21 million. Twenty-nine units occupying a gross floor area of 58,984 square meters have been developed in the Carmel Ray Industrial Park II.



CARMELRAY Industrial Park II

Expanded spaces

The additional spaces are targeted for completion in 2005. New designs and features in the expanded commercial spaces are expected to attract more industries, particularly in electronics, IT, chemical, pharmaceutical, automotive, food and beverage and in general support.

Carmelray Industrial Park II is equipped with its own dedicated 21-Mw diesel-fired generating power plant. This facility is expected to ram up to 54 MW in the near future.

Both phases in the sprawling 145-hectare industrial park will total up to 95 hectares of land space to accommodate the industries from various fields. Proponents of the industrial park expect to generate 15,000 jobs once it is completed.

Singaporean model

The RBFs in the industrial park are modeled after those in Singapore, particularly JTC Corp.'s RBF. These are built as stand-alone buildings with finishes on individual land plots. Each unit provides a production-cum-office space ranging from 500 to over 4,000 sq. m.

Typical RBFs come complete with segregated mezzanine office levels, sanitary facilities, guardhouses, bin centers, loading or parking bays, fire protection systems and adequate utility provisions laid within the property boundaries. Facilities are developed for lease or for sale.

Business space solutions provider of industrial, business, science and IT parks—Ascendas Philippines Corp.—would widen scope to develop facilities for IT and e-services in the Carmelray Industrial Park II. Ascendas is also set to expand to other parts of the Philippines to provide business space solutions for IT, electronics, biomedical sciences, engineering technology, food and fragrances, and manufacturing technology industries.

By business space solutions, tenants or locators of the industrial park could have an e-infrastructure setup with a broadband standard of 24 by 7 plug-in access to global markets. It could also mean a network to link the tenants in various parks in India, China, the Philippines and Singapore—a virtual community in the region. This is in the midst of companies looking for an ideal environment for industrial and hi-tech hub.

During the Sept. 18 launch of APC's offices, Ascendas in Singapore said that since the start of 2001, APC has been closing at least one deal per month.

"The country is increasingly being sought after as an outsourcing center for IT services such as data entry and processing and call center operations," said Ascendas Pte Ltd. president and CEO Chong Siak Ching. She stressed APC would further look at investment opportunities in the Philippines. She said that early this year her company had been receiving inquiries on where the company would be locating its business spaces for call center operations.

Locators

Locators in Carmelray Industrial Park II have reportedly invested $152 million and have employed over 3,000 people. These locators include Psi Technologies, Miyoshi Technologies, Kyushu Matsushita and Three Five Systems Pacific. Between January and September 2001, 10 new foreign locators had signed up. Among them were IT data conversion centers, five Japanese, one German, one Singaporean, and one Malaysian manufacturer. Just recently, the Japan-Singapore-Philippine manufacturer L&M Tech Inc. signed up.

RBF Development Corp., an affiliate of Ascendas Philippines Corp., is the developer and manager of build-to-suit facilities and ready build facilities in the park, which is being offered for lease or for sale. Its subsidiary, Business Facilities Development Corp., will develop and manage real estate development projects outside Carmelray Industrial Park II.

VILLAGE CHURCH

Laguna BelAir residents will soon have a place of worship right in their own community as the village church is now 80 percent complete. Developer Empire East Land Holdings Inc. has completed structural work and roofing installation for the modem steel and stained-glass church. Floor tiles and Araal stones for the columns have been installed while remaining electrical and architectural works are ongoing. Located near the Laguna BelAir Commercial Center, the church is scheduled for completion by end-October this year.

Microtel hotels at top of US rankings in guest satisfaction

MICROTEL Inns & Suites, the fastest-growing hotel chain in the Philippines, has been ranked among the highest in guest satisfaction among economy hotels in the United States.

The "2001 Domestic Hotel Guest Satisfaction Study" by J.D. Power and Associates, of California, showed that with guests rating hotels in terms of their own satisfaction—with 100 points as "Average" they gave Microtel 114 points.

Guest satisfaction rating was based mainly on the guest room, the departure process, and the pre-arrival and arrival experiences, according to the recently released study results. These three items accounted for more than 70 percent of guest satisfaction.

Economy category

Behind Microtel with "Above-Average" rating in the economy category were Motel 6 and Super 8 Motels with 201 points each in guest satisfaction rating, and Budget Host with 101 points. Only Fairfield by Mamott ranked higher than Microtel, with 116 points.

Of these top five economy hotel chains, only Microtel operates in the Philippines.

Finishing at or below the industry average—in alphabetical order—were Days Inn, Econo Lodge, Knights Inn, Ramada Limited, Red Roof Inns and Travelodge, according to the study.

"More than one-half of all guests rate their overall satisfaction as high, but only approximately one-third show strong loyalty to a given hotel chain," said Linda Hirneise, partner and director of the hotel practice at J.D. Power and Associates.

The study also reveals that while location is the primary reason business or leisure travelers choose their hotel, potential guests also select hotels based on past experience, recommendations from friends and family, and brand reputation. The 2001 Hotel Guest Satisfaction Study is based on 13,335 individual evaluations from a national representative sample of business and leisure hotel guests. Fifty-two hotel chains in six market segments are included in the study.

Represented locally by Microtel Inns & Suites (Pilipinas) Inc., or MIS-P, the Microtel chain is known internationally for giving value-conscious business and leisure travelers most of the services of first-class hotels at rates comparable to those of independent hotels.

4 hotel projects

MIS-P has four hotel projects in the Philippines so far. In the first half of the year it inaugurated Microtel hotels in Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro, the Luisita Estate in Tarlac; the First Philippine Industrial Park in Sto. Tomas, Batangas; and the Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club in General Trias, Cavite.

Three more Microtel hotels—in the Canlubang Sugar Estate in Cabuyao, Laguna, in the Sta. Rosa Business Park in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, and in the Kapitan Pepe Subdivision in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija are scheduled to start construction in the last quarter of 2001. These are scheduled to open in the third quarter of next year.

Worldwide, Microtel has 237 hotels operating in the United States and more than 400 being developed in various countries. The Philippine network is the first in Asia and shows one of the highest growth rates within the international chain.

EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERISM AT WORK

The habitat experience

IN THE BEGINNING, it may have been plain curiosity and the inherent need to experience something different. For some, it may have been the desire to get out of the corporate surrounding at least for a day. Nevertheless, doing volunteer work to build a house for people you have never met, nor heard of, takes much more than these. For the Insular Life Group employees, it was the desire to help out in building a home and a dream for the less privileged members of society.

From Aug. 6 to 10, Insular Life participated in Habitat for Humanity's World Leaders Build. Apart from sponsoring the construction of a house in Springville, Muntinlupa, a Habitat for Humanity build site, Insular Life encouraged its employees to volunteer a day's work to help construct the house it sponsored. The response was overwhelming. A total of 170 employees from Insular Life and its four subsidiaries signed up for the five-day build in two sites: Springville, Muntinlupa City and Lucky Homes in Pulang Lupa, Las Piñas City. Insular Life chair and president Vicente R. Ayllon led the volunteers on the first day at the Muntinlupa site.

ALLAN Diwata and his wife, beneficiaries of the Insular Life-sponsored Habitat home, are flanked by Muntinlupa Mayor Jaime R. Fresnedi, left, and Insular Life chair and president Vicente R. Ayllon.

Ahead of time

Each day's volunteers were formed into a team and were given a goal to meet for the day. With a goal in mind, the volunteers wasted no time in getting down to work. The work included mixing cement, carrying pails of cement and pieces of hallow blocks to the site, then laying the hollow blocks to form the walls of the house and plastering the wall. Others volunteered to cut wires needed to hold steel bars together. Some also painted steel beams.

All these tasks were carried out with eagerness and dedication, yet with lots of laughter and fun. Volunteers either sweated it out under the heat of the sun or waded through pools of water and mud during intermittent drizzle and heavy downpour. Only the occasional heavy rains momentarily stopped the volunteers from working. As a result, and to the amazement of the Habitat project leaders, the IL volunteers were able to complete their goal for the day much ahead of time.

Enriching experience

Everyone felt lucky to be part of this unique experience. For senior vice president Marietta Gorrez doing volunteer work for the Habitat was a very enriching experience. Says Gorrez: "...It was very fulfilling knowing that we have helped a public school teacher put up her dream house. I realized that when you donate labor, you give part of your time, which in a way, is giving part of yourself."

AVP Boy Bombais of Insular Investment and Trust Corp. furthers "...it was a heartwarming experience being a part of this project. At least, I can now say that my presence gave way to the fulfillment of these less fortunate friends to own a house."

Ella Bartolome, a trainer with Insular Life, concurs. She said that volunteering for the Habitat project was very enriching for the soul, both hers and the family helped. Jammie Gesmundo of Insular Life Health Care echoes this. "It was an overwhelming experience for me. Even though it was tiring, it was worth it because it made me feel happy building homes for others."

As a result of the build experience, many now appreciate the hard work that construction workers do. They got a better of how easier their life is compared to others. Office employees usually stay in the comfort of; their air-conditioned rooms five days a week facing the computer for eight hours, after which, they head for home with nary an intense muscle pain. Many volunteers attested to this fact, saying nothing could have prepared them for the insights they have gained from just a day's work.

INSULAR Life volunteers passing on pails of cement in the Las Piñas site.

No joke

Rachelle Marie Felipe of Insular Life's Corporate Operations Group candidly admits that building a house was no joke. "Only one thought kept running through my mind: *mahirap maging mason* (it's hard to be a mason). As such, my theme song for that day was *'Mahirap palang gumawa ng bahay ng iba; O kalyo at* sunburn *maniwala ka...'* ('It's hard to build a house for others; Corn and sunburn believe you...') Nevertheless, the experience made me better appreciate the job of construction workers."

VP Ramon Cabrera echoes this feeling. "After the Habitat experience, I told my wife we should be paying laborers more."

AVP Lea Castañeda of Insular General Insurance Co. shares that volunteering for the Habitat project gave her an extraordinary sense of accomplishment. "...It gave me a sense of fulfillment that any type of achievement in work such as promotion, salary increase, etc., will not bring about. In addition, it created a sense of camaraderie (as) ranks and positions were set aside. For one day, we were all carpenters."

Housing, property network agreement

IN THE MIDST of the present economic downturn affecting housing and property market, the Philippine Association of Realtors Boards (Pareb), has joined the RGV Real Estate Center to extend its support and actively participate in the thrust to realize the objectives of the government shelter program and the property business. This could provide significant contributions to the country's economy.

Pareb was represented by its national president Antonio Constantino, while the RGV Real Estate Center was represented by its chair and chief executive officer Rodolfo G. Valencia.

VALENCIA

In a memorandum of agreement, noted realtors have agreed to foster positive outlook for the housing industry and uplift the status of practitioners and professionals who are heavily affected by the sluggish demand for real estate projects.

The RGV Center, on its part, has committed to assist the shelter program by making available to the market and other target beneficiaries P7 to P10 billion worth of mixed housing inventories.

The top realty officers, who signified their commitment and cooperation with the RGV network, composed about 1,500 sales agents and brokers. They included Arturo Acosta, president, Pasig Realtors Board; Luis Melchor Serquina, chair, Pareb; Ramon Tioseco, board consultant; and Oscar Garcia, presidential adviser; and Rafael Pula, founding president, Real Estate Brokers Association of the Philippines (Rebap); Jeciel Benavidez, president, Mandaluyong City Realtors Board. Others were Ariel Martinez, president, Pasay Makati Realtors Board; Rasyl Abela, president, Plareb; Florentino Dulalia Jr., president, Realty Service Council of the Philippines (Rescop); Leticia Yu, national vice president for Luzon; Cesar Arnaldo Jr., senior vice president, Pareb; John Mazo, president, Rizal Realtors Board; Juan Dayag, board consultant; and Reynaldo N. Asuncion, president, RGV Center.

European, reg'l firms to make strong presence in Philconstruct

EUROPEAN and Asia-Pacific construction companies will make a strong presence in the 11th Philconstruct through the active participation of national trade organizations and embassies.

Set on Nov. 15-18 at the World Trade Center Metro Manila in Pasay City, the 11th Philconstruct is the acknowledged exhibition leader in Southeast Asia for the building and construction industries.

This year's event will see the participation of over 400 companies from at least 30 nations.

To date, it has the confirmed support from Malaysia through the Malaysia External Trade Development Corp. or Matrade, the US Commercial Service, US Embassy, and the Austrade through the Australian Embassy.

Also participating are the embassies of Japan, France, Indonesia, India, Great Britain, Singapore, the Czech Republic, the Italian Trade Commission, Royal Thai Embassy and Finland Trade Center.

Philconstruct 2001 will bring together leading suppliers and manufacturers of construction materials, products and services. It will also provide networking opportunity with over 40,000 industry professionals including architects and engineers, buyers and investors, property owners and developers, building administrators, information technology experts, interior designers, business and government group representatives, contractors and major corporate users.

Dubbed as the Philippine International Construction and Building Materials Exhibition and Technology Forum, Philconstruct has seen tremendous growth over the years in terms of overall show size and the number of exhibitors. It is an event where the world's best and the Philippines' finest converge to do business, and load up on ideas and innovations that will benefit their business operations.

For details on Philconstruct, call up Convex International at 726-8664 to 65, 726-4128 to 30, or fax at 724-4578, or e-mail at convex@mozcom. com. Interested parties are requested to visit the website www.convex-ph. com.

World-class warehouse inaugurated

ALLIED Domecq Philippines Inc. (Adpi) recently inaugurated its newly renovated warehouse in Parañaque, Metro Manila. This is in anticipation of greater sales volume and market share.

Adpi president Seymour P. Ferreira said the warehouse has been transformed into a world-class facility that will substantially improve the company's ability to respond efficiently to the requirements of the trade and consumers alike.

Ferreira added that the major upgrading of the warehouse is a vote of confidence in the country and will be a significant factor driving the growth of the company's business and building its leadership position in the sector. Allied Domecq, among its various brands, owns Fundador, the leading imported spirit in the country.

Leading the inauguration was Congressman and businessman Eduardo C. Zialcita of the lone district of Parañaque, who congratulated Allied Domecq on behalf of President Macapagal-Arroyo for investing in the warehouse and for its faith in the country's future.

New features

The warehouse boasts several new features that enhances the company's competitiveness: a world-class racking system; excellent lighting; roof insulation; a wine room to maintain required coolness at 15° Celsius; and a loading bay with a dock leveler to facilitate movement. Total floor area of the warehouse is 3,500 sq. m., with the wine room expanded from 240 to 800 sq. m.

The new loading system includes the use of a counterbalanced forklift for improved safety and efficiency, while transferring, storing and loading shipments. The loading system now requires less time and reduces labor costs while effectively eliminating breakage.

With a previous storage capacity of 50,000 cases, the warehouse now can hold 120,000 cases and its racking system is able to store cases three stacks high.

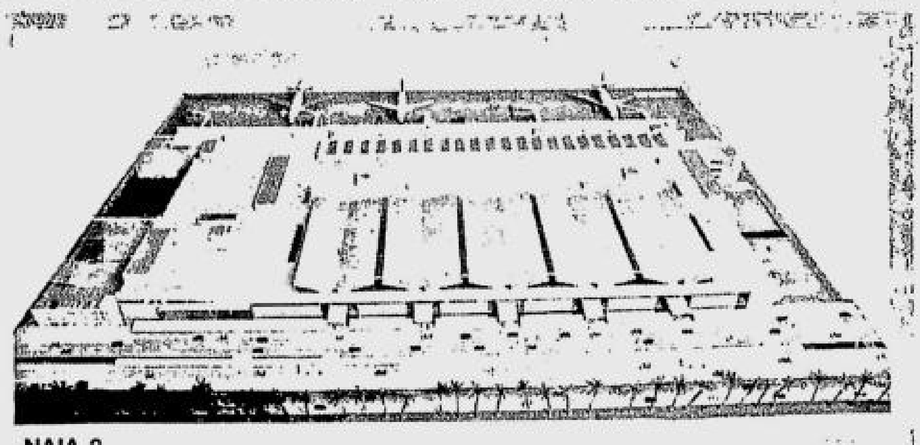
Speedy completion

Warehouse manager Marlon O. Beringuela of Allied Domecq Philippines said the speedy completion of the warehouse renovation was made possible by the company's steadfast commitment to the project.

With the upgrade, we envision the more expeditious delivery by Allied Domecq of the best quality products, through better warehousing distribution services to our clients, Beringuela said, He observed that a container can now be emptied by forklift in 10 minutes, whereas previously it took four hours of manual unloading.

"With faster deliveries, we can make products available to outlets on a timely basis," noted Ferreira, "We are able to store products properly, so that quality and taste are maintained for the satisfaction of consumers.

Allied Domecq is determined to provide world-class products and services, which means adhering to world-class standards in warehousing," Ferreira concluded.



NAIA 3

U.S. DESIGN, GERMAN THOROUGHNESS

The characteristics of an ideal airport

WITH international passenger traffic showing a significant rise, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, and the further expansion and introduction of new airlines, new route development, a number of new airports were planned. In the Philippines, the need for a new terminal was realized way back in 1990 when the Manila International Airport Authority commissioned Aeroport de Paris to conduct the Naia (Ninoy Aquino International Airport) Master Plan Study.

World-renowned American architectural firm Skidmore Owings and Merill (SOM) is currently leading a team of architects and engineers in the design effort for the new international terminal complex at the Villamor Air Base. The SOM's international experience includes the design and construction of major international airports in key cities worldwide. The company is responsible for the design of terminals at four major American airports: John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York; Dulles International Airport in Washington DC; Logan International Airport in Boston; and San Francisco International Airport. It has successfully completed more than $5 billion of airport construction projects worldwide.

Massive structure

A sense of space is something passengers will experience with the approach toward Terminal 3, as one is greeted by its massive structure. The terminal's roof is shaped like outstretched wings, symbolic of a bird in flight, communicating the country on the verge of taking off. Entering the terminal creates a focal point that gives way to its soaring space (182,000 sq. m.) that is perfectly described as modern, upbeat and vogue. Thus, this provides a visual compass that ushers passengers to a truly grand international airport.

Running the entire length of the terminal along the main access road, canopies protect the interior of the terminal from direct sunlight. The scale of canopies provides a sense of enclosure to the entry sequence and gives passengers a sense of welcome and security. The roof of the Departure Hall is designed to collect and channel heavy rains off the building and filters the heat of the sun. Through the use of diffusers, only indirect and filtered natural light reaches the interior, making the Departure Hall a light-filled space without the glare of direct sunlight.

The Concourses are clear and functional structures. At the center of each concourse is a large, two-story, sky lit shopping atrium, which provides a visually dramatic and electric setting for shoppers waiting for their flight. The car park building at the south of the terminal head house can accommodate 2,000 cars, plus an additional surface parking for 1,000 vehicles in front of the terminal. The terminal building is spaciously designed to accommodate statistically five greeters or well-wishers for every passenger. After check-in, passengers may meet again with their well-wishers at the retail center or food court.

Consulting activities

Adding their specialization along side Skidmore Owings and Merill is Fraport AG Frankfurt (Airport Services Worldwide). Fraport AG is one of the leading companies in the international airport business and is globally present in more than 40 locations with subsidiaries, holdings, partnerships and joint ventures. Fraport AG has been operating the international transport hub of "Frankfurt Airport" (FRA) in Germany for more than 70 years. The FRA is the busiest airport on the European continent and among the top 10 in the world for passenger and cargo traffic.

A team of Fraport AG specialist is tasked with planning and coordinating architectural and operational procedures for the IPT 3. In addition, Fraport experts based at Frankfurt Airport will provide support to the specialist team in Manila. Fraport AG's consulting activities include support during the project period and the start-up operations. "This is a further important step in making this international airport project a success," said Fraport AG's Johannes Endlier, member of the executive board and executive director for finance, traffic and retail.

With 53 percent of the work already completed, Naia 3 is on schedule for its December 2002 opening. The IPT 3 will have a design capacity of 13 million passengers per year, a 33,000 peak day capacity, 34 air bridges, 314 display monitors, 118 immigration counters, 140 check-in counters, 29 elevators, 20 escalators and 9 moving walkways. It will also have a 20,000-sq.-m shopping center, other retail areas that cover 14,000 sq. m., 8 departure baggage carousels, 7 arrival baggage carousels, 20 X-ray screening machines, 20 walkthrough detectors, and 50 hand-held metal detectors. Another unique aspect of the IPT 3 is presence of an ecumenical chapel. The Terminal 3 project will be the primary international gateway to the Philippines—a showcase for the country's achievement and pride as well as a magnet for business and investment in the future.

Crown Asia launches 2 major projects to mark 6th year

PROPERTY developer Crown Asia sets the pace for future subdivisions in northern and eastern Metro Manila with this month's opening of two major projects, costing nearly P1 billion.

"This is part of our commitment to lead the way home in our sixth anniversary celebration by giving our future customers bigger and better subdivisions with a wider range of home models," said Marcelino C. Mendoza, Crown Asia chief executive officer.

Sprawling expanse

First to be opened to the public is Grande Vita near Crown Asia's highly successful Tierra Nova in Novaliches, just a few minutes drive from SM City Fairview, Robinsons Mall in Fairview, Nova Mall and Ever Gotesco-Commonwealth. Formally opened Sept. 16, access to the Grande Vita is through Commonwealth Avenue where traffic flow has benefited tremendously from a road-widening project of the government and Bagumbong Road in Novaliches.

With a sprawling expanse of nearly six hectares, Grande Vita has been fully developed at a cost of almost half a billion pesos and is an easily accessible community that offers an Italian-countryside-inspired setting with luxury and elegance at a price that is within reach.

Satisfaction

Two house models, Florence and Tuscany, with lot sizes from 55 to 150 sq. m. are available for future residents with contract prices ranging from P800,000 to P1million that can also be made available through financing with a monthly amortization between P8,000 and P9,000. "A Grande Vita home comes with the satisfaction of knowing that it is a Crown Asia development and has therefore been carefully constructed with the highest quality materials. You cannot beat that kind of assurance at these affordable prices," Mendoza said.

Florence is a single firewall, two-bedroom house with a carport and a floor area of 44 sq. m. Tuscany, on the other hand, is a three-bedroom townhouse unit with a floor area between 45 and 50 sq. m. Only 336 units will be made available in the new subdivision.

Grande Vita's Italian-countryside ambience comes with full amenities like a multipurpose hall, basketball courts, playgrounds and parks, round-the-clock security and water services. A landscaped and guarded entrance and a perimeter fence assure residents they can live in peace and security amid all the luxury Grande Vita has to offer.

Secure in all aspects

In Antipolo City, Crown Asia recently opened Groves of Maia Alta, the fifth phase of the its premier master-planned community called Maia Alta. Set in the lush green hills of Antipolo City, Groves of Maia Alta residents can feel secure in all aspects—from the design and construction of the houses, to the roads, to amenities like the clubhouse, swimming pool and sports center.

Available are three house models—Allona Andrea and Angelina—with prices ranging from P1.2 million to P2.5 million for the complete house and lot. The two- story Allona house has a floor area of 48 sq. m. with a carport and a service area. Andrea takes things a little further with a floor area of 80 sq. m. with three bedrooms, two toilets and bath, a carport and provision for a lanai. Angelina, on the other hand, has 92 sq. m on a minimum lot area of 130 sq. m. It has three bedrooms with balcony, garage and two toilets and bath.

LOW LOW PRICE
PVC VALVE & FITTINGS
ASAHI BRAND
MADE IN JAPAN
BALL VALVE DIAPHRAGM VALVE CHECK VALVE FLANGE
STOP GLOBE VALVE PIPE FITTINGS
* PVC VALVE - BALL, GATE (SLUICE) CHECK STOP GLOBE, DIAPHRAMS, ETC.
* PVC SHEETS - SUNLOID, SEKISUI & TAKIRON
* PVC WELDING ROD * PVC HEATING ELEMENT
ARMSTRONG CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY
358 G. Araneta Ave., Santol, Quezon City 1113
TELS. 713-5211 to 13 * 713-5191 FAX: 713-5182

Your Total Solution to any Waterproofing Problem
FLEXSEAL™
Elastomeric Paint
Total waterproofing protection for walls, floors & other general waterproofing requirements
SUPERSEAL
Cementitious Waterproofing Coating
Heavy-duty cement-based waterproofing protection for walls, floors, basements, water tanks and other water-holding structures
CERAMICOAT
Elastomeric Insulating Paint
For insulating and waterproofing of all types of roofings, walls and floors.
from the most trusted name in waterproofing:
CAMPBRIDGE Waterproofing Systems, Inc
137, JOSE ABAD SANTOS AVE., METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES
Tel. Nos. 252-05-31 up to 32; 252-05-49 up to 51; 252-05-59; Fax No.: 252-05-50
Website: www.campbridge.com
Distributor for Northern Luzon:
DAGUPAN TONY'S LUMBER INC. (PROBUILD)
AB Fernandez Ave. Dagupan Tel No: (075) 523-4113 to 14/522-0477
Distributor for Visayas and Mindanao:
CEBU OVERSEA HARDWARE CO., INC.
#82 Plaridel St. Cebu City Tel No (032) 254-1511 Fax No (032) 52426
AVAILABLE THROUGH DEALERS NATIONWIDE

ELEGANCE NEED NOT BE EXPENSIVE!
What do these have in common? ... MALACANANG, SUPREME COURT, PLDT, NAIA 2, Megamall & SM Malls, Shangri-La, Glorietta, Harrison Plaza, Rustan's, Gaisano's, Greenbelt, Robinson's Place, Festival Supermall, Sta Lucia Grand Mall, Manuela, Pavilion Mall, Alabang Town Center, Gotesco Malls Galleria, Rockwell Center, Magic Mall, Times Plaza, Sunshine, etc., etc., etc. ... As well as classy homes and condos all over the Philippines.
Also extensively used in Attics, Ballrooms, Clinics, Colleges & Coffee Shops, Schools, Showroom, & Offices ... from Antipolo, Bacolod, Baguio, Boracay, Cebu, Cagayan de Oro, Dagupan, Davao, Iloilo, Subic and Tagaytay ... to Zambonga and Zambales.
These (and a lot more) have elegance. They have ... TEKTITE's
Highest SCRATCH Resistance! LAMINATE
FLOORING
This Ultra HI-TECH Flooring is the current craze worldwide
FROM RP's BIGGEST LAMINATE FLOOR SUPPLIER NATIONWIDE
Distributed by: TEKTITE TECHNOLOGIES CORP.
HEAD OFFICE : 1205 Tektite East Tower, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Philippines
Tel. nos. 635-5246 to 49 ■ Fax: 634-4507 • 634-4497
MANILA OFFICE : Tel. nos. 253-6797 ■ Fax: 253-6802 ■ E-mail: tektite1@ info. com.ph
SALE: PVC Laminated Gypsum Board & 5/8" Reg. Gypsum Board

BRICKSTONE (52 pcs. / sq. m.) | SQUARE TILE (26 pcs. / sq. m.) | WAVY (40 pcs. / sq. m.)
ALTERNATIVE TO JUST CONCRETING
For walkways, driveways and carparks
CLOVER (32 pcs. / sq. m.) | KEYHOLE (40 pcs. / sq. m.) | TURF GRASS (9 pcs. / sq. m.)
VAZPAVE™ CONCRETE BLOCKS
Beauty and durability to modern paving . Gray and red colors (special colors by order)
Text / Call: (Quezon City) 0917-8445451 / 4128290 to 94 ; (Manila) 0916-3417107 / 7339116 ;
(Sucat) 0917-3366609 / 8269316; (Imus) 0917-8404459 / 046-4714672 ; (MC Depot) 6366944 / 6933070 ;
(Cabanatuan) 0917-4231611 / 044-4632339; (Calasiao) 075-5236881; (Olongapo) 047-2225494 ;
(San Pedro , Laguna) 8691629 ; (Lipa) 0917-4046954 / 043-4041718; (Daraga , Albay) 0919-5524278 ;
(Cebu) 0916-3553165 / 032-3450727; (Davao) 0917-8121171 / 0917-7006925 / 082-2976457 / 082-2274889

LANDCO BUSINESS PARK LEGAZPI

A new kind of eruption in Bicol

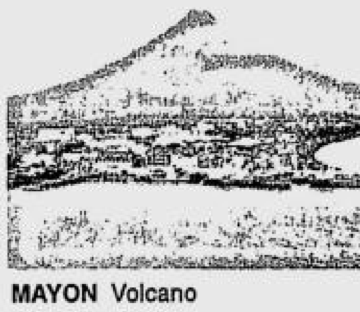
IT seems as though Mayon Volcano is not the only one causing eruptions in the Bicol region. Shopping, business and tourism are also booming in this region as the new Landco Business Park approaches its completion by the fourth quarter of this year.

Rising in the hub of Legazpi City, Landco Business Park is an upcoming prime commercial area composed of a shopping center and an architecturally themed commercial business district (CBD).

The first of its kind in Bicol, Landco Business Park will be the region's ultimate business and leisure destination. Easily accessible from the main thoroughfares of Legazpi City, Landco Business Park is in the heart of downtown and just a few minutes away from the very busy port area.

Local residents will surely enjoy the world-class shopping comforts of Pacific Mall, the centerpiece of the entire business park. Just a few of its modern features are state-of-the-art movie theaters, an amusement center, a food court, a bingo hall and some of the best tenants in the shopping center industry today. Moreover, Cebu's best retailer, Metro Gaisano, will bring in its expertise as the anchor department store and supermarket of Landco Business Park.

Business in Legazpi City is putting on a new suit as Landco Business Park introduces its master-planned commercial business district, composed of ideally located premier lots for commercial buildings. The unique feature of the CBD is its well-planned zoning system and architecturally themed buildings, which give all establishments a unified and complementing appearance. Phase 1 is currently enjoying brisk sales on the back of strong demand from local wholesalers and retailers.



MAYON Volcano

Many are wondering why an exciting development like Landco Business Park is set on an area that is home to such an explosive marvel as the Mayon Volcano. Michael Reyes, deputy business director of this project, says, "What is unknown to many is that Legazpi City remains unaffected by the negative side of Mayon's volcanic activities. Thousands of tourists, both foreign and domestic, visit Legazpi City just to get a glimpse of the perfectly shaped volcano." Mayon Volcano is undeniably the favorite of photographers, painters and mountain climbers who frequently visit it. More so, the periodic eruptions of Mayon are considered a blessing by quite a number of people for these bring about more tourists, thus giving additional income-generating opportunities for Bicolanos.

Landco Business Park takes advantage of this strong tourism aspect by creating an ambience that is especially favorable for travelers and sightseers. A portion of the Business Park is designed to be the new center of tourism in Legazpi City. This area facing the view of Mayon boasts of chic amenities such as hotels, inns, bars, cafés, restaurants, souvenir shops and a variety of retail stores. All of these are complemented with a well-landscaped outdoor activity area that is designed to give a park-like atmosphere where anyone can just hang out and stay up for starry nights and evening rendezvous.

Revolutionary developments like Landco Business Park is just one of the many endeavors of Landco Pacific Corp. A subsidiary of Metro Pacific Corp., Landco Pacific is an established property developer known for first-class projects outside Metro Manila. Some of its best-known projects are the Peninsula De Punta Fuego in Batangas, Canyon Woods in Tagaytay and NE Pacific Mall in Cabanatuan City.

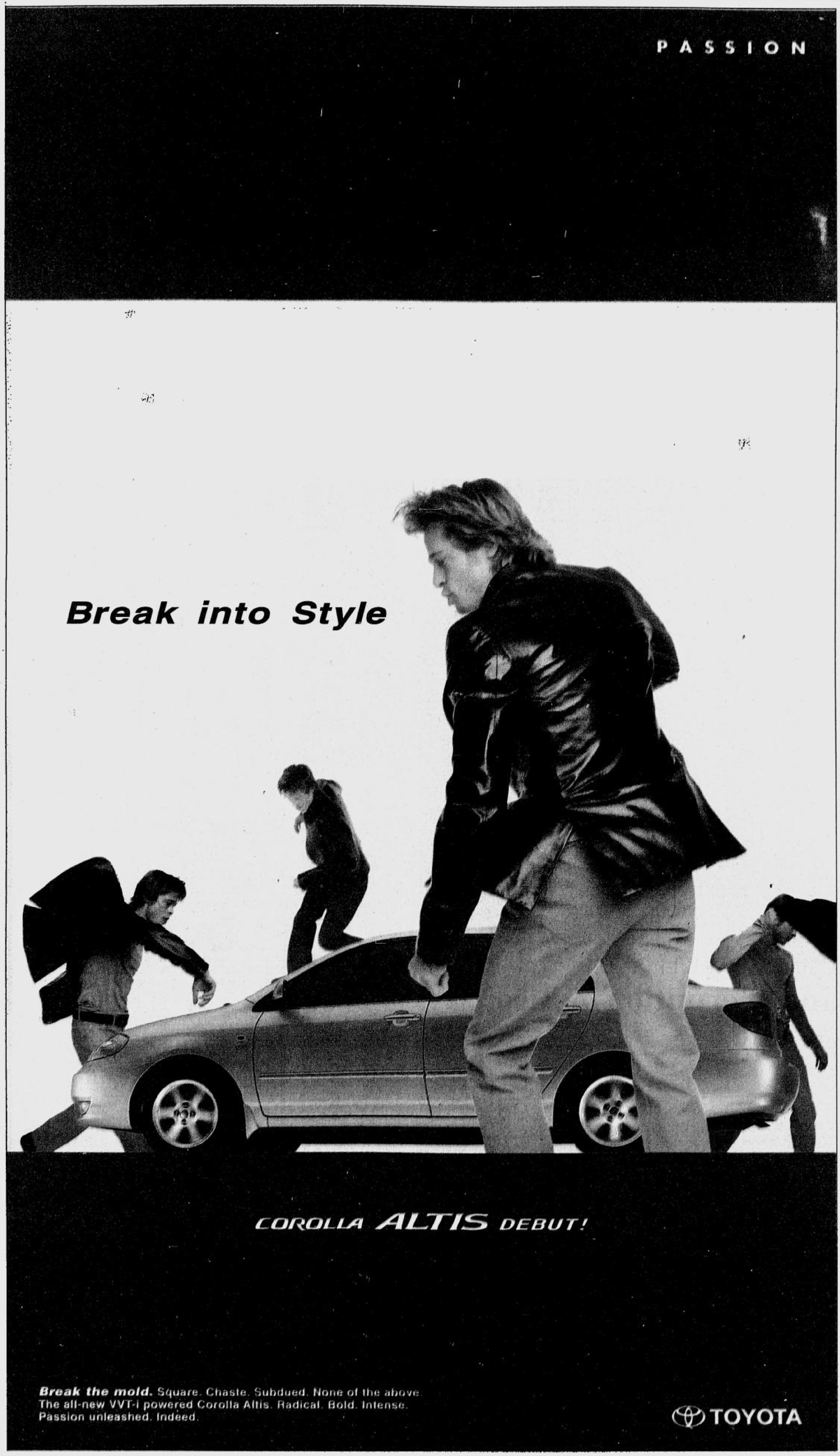
New E-Cement sales website introduced

UNION Cement Corp., the country's premiere cement manufacturer, leads the Philippine cement business into the digital era by launching E-Cement Sales and Procurement through its website www.unioncement.com.

By providing direct and easy Internet access to its SAP system, customers can now order cement, manage their accounts, and monitor their orders online. Suppliers can get accredited and submit bids online.

As the first Philippine cement firm to offer these services, UCC believes that its e-commerce strategy will enhance its industry leadership.

"With the new system, doing business with us is even easier," says Dr. Magdaleno B. Albarracin Jr., UCC president. "E-Cement is important to us because strengthening our relationship with customers and partners is necessary for our company to succeed."


PASSION
Break into Style
COROLLA ALTIS DEBUT!
Break the mold. Square. Chaste. Subdued. None of the above.
The all-new VVT-i powered Corolla Altis. Radical. Bold. Intense.
Passion unleashed. Indeed.
TOYOTA

8 groups offer to handle $500-M bond float

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance will choose from eight foreign groups the overseer of the government's $500-million borrowing from the Japanese bond market tentatively slated in November.

Among those that submitted offers to handle the bond float were Daiwa Securities, Nikko Securities with Salomon Smith Barney, Citibank with Sumitomo Bank, Fuji Bank, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Nomura Securities, Deutsche Bank with Mizoho Securities, and ING Barings with Merrill Lynch.

National Treasurer Sergio Edeza said the DOF's international finance group will submit to Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho today its recommendation on which group should handle the borrowing, the size of the loan, and the preferred mode and tenor.

"We will disclose very soon the details of the Japanese market borrowing," Edeza said.

INQUIRER sources said the government was biased in favor of offering the bonds through a private placement or what is called a shibosai in the Japanese market as against a public offering, or a samurai issue.

Camacho earlier said the bond issue would range between $300 million and $500 million. Sources said the government would choose to borrow the maximum amount because of favorable spreads being offered by the Japanese market.

The preferred term is 10 years but the government may agree to bring down the maturity for a portion of the borrowing to five years, the sources added.

The Philippine government, they said, was seeking a guarantee from the state-owned Nippon Export and Investment to bring down the cost of its borrowing.

A guarantee from Nippon would give the government borrowing an investment grade rating, which would bring down the spreads on its borrowing to a range even lower than the going rate of 2.8 to 3 percentage points over the Yen interbank offered rate.

The Yen benchmark rate had increased to 0.08125 percent yesterday from last week's 0.07438 percent.

Camacho had said that the proceeds of the Japanese market borrowing would be used to finance next year's anticipated budget deficit.

"The spreads in the Japanese market are favorable compared with the others. And we also want to diversify our sources of funding," the finance secretary said.

Next year, Camacho said the government would have to pare down its local borrowings and increase funding from abroad, most of which should come from official development assistance.

From P173 billion worth of financing this year, the government is targeting to need only about P111 billion for next year.

LIFESTYLE
FOR FEEDBACK, TEXT US AT (0919) 661-2337 OR E-MAIL US AT LIFESTYLE@INQUIRER.COM.PH
CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor
Fitness

RASHMI Singh executes the basic Salute to the Sun exercise in a classic shot taken by photographer turned monk Butch Baluyot.

Balancing body and soul

Yoga is not equivalent to exercise.
Its basic premise has to be upheld. The premise
is that we are a whole and spiritual being.
The body is only a part of our wholeness

By Marge C. Enriquez

AS a teenager in the '70s, I took up yoga because my mother dragged me to a couple of workshops. That must have been her idea of parenting and quality time.

At that age, lectures on karma and the Vedic scriptures, to me, were as arcane as a trigonometry class. Participants rose at dawn to meditate, did the bathroom rituals, executed postures named after animals and plants, chanted, listened to the lectures filled with Sanskrit terms, ate mung beans and gluten for lunch, and sat for more boring lectures and meditation.

At another time, an *acharya* or visiting Indian yoga teacher conducted a series of workshops for harried businessmen who hoped that the *asanas* would help in lowering their blood pressures and in losing weight. I was the youngest in those yoga classes. However, I didn't get any benefit from the classes. I ate hamburgers, smoked and drank on the sly because it was cool then. Doing yoga and being a vegetarian were considered hokey.

Today, in this liberal era, the youth find yoga classes hip as it has become fashionable to chuck those Marlboro Lights for *pranayam* (the breath of life). In a restaurant, it is chic to send back your plate to the chef if he ignorantly gives you a fishplate for a vegetarian meal. Give him a lecture on *ahimsa* (nonviolence) or how unethical it is to kill a living creature for human consumption.

A quarter of a century later, I've cleaned up my lifestyle and I've tried out the yoga classes in popular venues. Now I'm part of the older (call us mature and sophisticated, please) population in these classes. Younger women are clad in sexy midriffs and halter tops and shorts, while the men sport wristbands and tattoos.

Not an alternative

Yoga has been experiencing a resurgence, thanks and no thanks to media images. On the one hand, yoga has brought about the awareness for spiritual awakening. On the other, images of practitioners with cuts or defined muscles send false messages that yoga is an alternative to weights and aerobics and merely a fitness fad. Western mentality tends to take the *asanas* (yoga postures) out of context from a lifestyle that values the balance of body and soul.

"How can yoga be tagged as an alternative when it's an entire system that's ancient?" asks Rashmi Singh (née Girlie Tolentino) of the Ra Kendra Holistic Center, who has been teaching yoga for 30 years.

"Yoga is not equivalent to exercise. Its basic premise has to be upheld. The premise is that we are a whole and spiritual being. The body is only a part of our wholeness. The spirit or soul manifests itself through the body," she explains.

BALANCING/ p.C2

WEIGH LESS CENTER
"NO TIME TO DIET"
JANICE DE BELEN
TV Host/Actress
MENDEZ MEDICAL GROUP
371-8886 / 371-8887 / 373-0766
374-2437 / 373-3365 / 373-3366
WEIGH LESS CENTER & SPA, 31 Roces Ave., Q.C.
CLINICA MANILA, 2F Bldg., A SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City
PATIENT FIRST MEDICAL CENTER, 3F Mercury Bldg., Glorietta, Mkt.
HEALTHWAY MEDICAL CLINIC, Basement Level, SM North, Q.C.
MINDANAO AVENUE BRANCH, 2F Randa Bldg., Mindanao Ave., Q.C.
ALL CLIENTS ARE SCHEDULED BY APPOINTMENT*

TOY WORLD
funtastic
TOY SALE
Sept. 1-30
Free Gifts
with purchase

BLUES CLUES
Bedtime Blues

DRAGONBALL Z
Goku and S.S Gohan
Collector's Edition

HARRY POTTER
Gringotts Magic
Water Maze

BETTY SPAGHETTY
Cat Rules

POWERPUFF GIRLS
Stuffed Dolls

FREE
Disney Mini Figurine
with a minimum P300 purchase of Powerpuff, Rugrats, Blues Clues, Remote Control Cars, Harry Potter, Polly Pocket and Betty Spaghetty

FREE
101 Dalmatian Vinyl Key Chain, Magnet and Long Spoon
with a minimum P300 purchase of V-tech, Shellcore, Fisher Price and Sesame Street

FREE
Tamagochi Key Chain
with a minimum P300 purchase of Digimon, Dragonball Z, Street Fighter, Ultraman, Gundam

V-TECH
Alphabert and Sprocket

SESAME STREET
My First Pal
Bert and Ernie

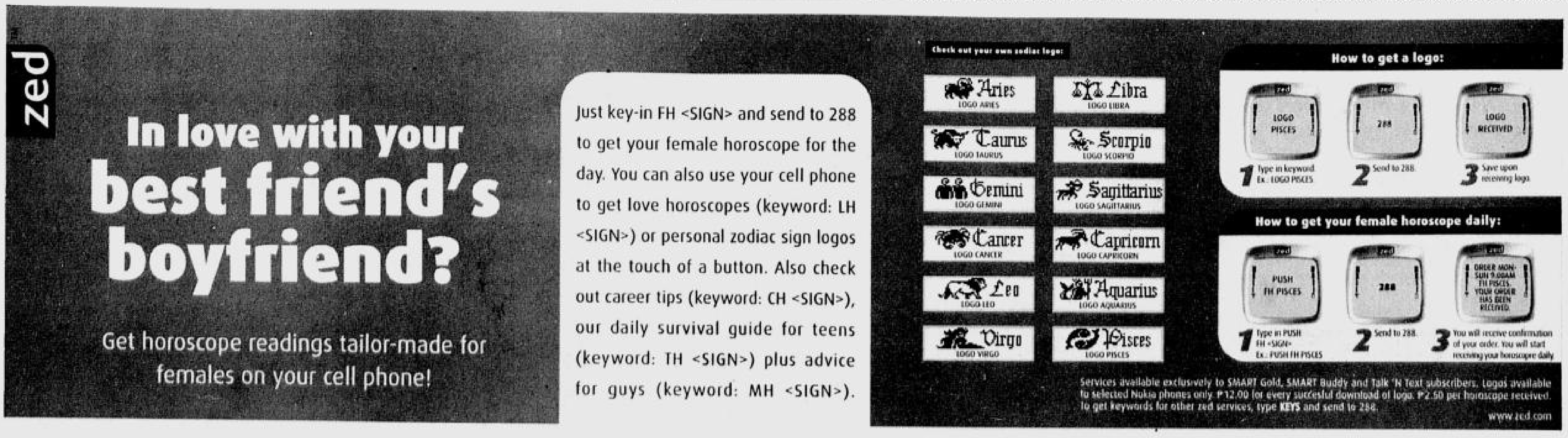
SHELCORE
Ring 'N Roll Pony

FISHER PRICE
Stack 'N Build Buddy

Get a chance to WIN one of 15 Playstations
A minimum P300 purchase entitles shopper to One (1) raffle coupon.
Deadline for submission of entries: Closing store hour of September 30, 2001
Draw Date: October 12, 2001
3pm, Ad & Promo Dept., SM Inc.
400 C. Palanca St., Quipapo, Manila
Promo Period: September 1 - 30, 2001

SM
We've got it all for you! DEPARTMENT STORE
See mechanics poster for details
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2712, Series of 2001

QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PIÑAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • ILOILO • CEBU


zed
In love with your best friend's boyfriend?
Get horoscope readings tailor-made for females on your cell phone!

Just key-in FH <SIGN> and send to 288 to get your female horoscope for the day. You can also use your cell phone to get love horoscopes (keyword: LH <SIGN>) or personal zodiac sign logos at the touch of a button. Also check out career tips (keyword: CH <SIGN>), our daily survival guide for teens (keyword: TH <SIGN>) plus advice for guys (keyword: MH <SIGN>).

Check out your own zodiac logo:
Aries LOGO ARIES
Taurus LOGO TAURUS
Gemini LOGO GEMINI
Cancer LOGO CANCER
Leo LOGO LEO
Virgo LOGO VIRGO
Libra LOGO LIBRA
Scorpio LOGO SCORPIO
Sagittarius LOGO SAGITTARIUS
Capricorn LOGO CAPRICORN
Aquarius LOGO AQUARIUS
Pisces LOGO PISCES

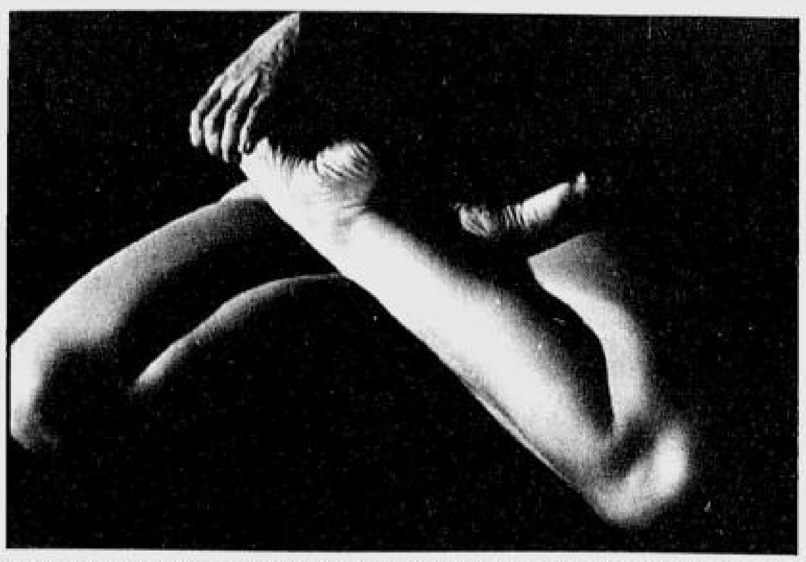
How to get a logo:
1 Type in keyword Ex.: LOGO PISCES
2 Send to 288.
3 Save upon receiving logo.

How to get your female horoscope daily:
1 Type in PUSH FH <SIGN> Ex.: PUSH FH PISCES
2 Send to 288.
3 You will receive confirmation of your order. You will start receiving your horoscope daily

Services available exclusively to SMART Gold, SMART Buddy and Talk 'N Text subscribers. Logos available to selected Nokia phones only. P12.00 for every successful download of logo. P2.50 per horoscope received. To get keywords for other zed services, type KEYS and send to 288.
www.zed.com

Balancing body and soul

(From page C1)



THE LOTUS position for meditation. The lotus is a symbol of detachment from the world.

ANTONIO Arando conducts a class.

PHOTO BY CHITO VECINA

Yoga consists of eight aspects—*yama* (conduct in relation to others) and *niyama* (conduct of right living for the self), *pranayam* (science of the breath), *asanas* (postures), *dharana* (science of concentration), *pratyahara* (withdrawing from the senses), *dhyan* (contemplation) and *samadhi* (bliss).

To most practitioners, the *asanas* are the most appealing.

Asan is a Sanskrit word for "seat." It denotes a state of rest.

"When you 'take your seat,' that is *asan*. You are in the process of getting into the state of *asan* that involves movement and breathing.' There is a point in the total posture where you stop and you completely hold your breath or you are without breath. That is the *asan*. It is not about stretching the muscle," explains Singh.

The *asanas* include a lot of exercises for lengthening and limbering up the spine and the lower back. The objective is to work on the nervous system to facilitate meditation.

Benefits

The imbalance between the body and soul results in "dis-ease."

"There are energy centers in the body that connect the physical functions with the psychic. If the lines are not clear, then it's not easy for the body to get the right messages from the spirit. There's an imbalance. *Asanas* are postures that help a person to ground their internal life to the physical life. *Asanas* are part of the discipline in cultivating harmony that start from the physical and eventually going inward. They facilitate meditation so we can become whole and it's easier to work on ourselves," says Singh.

"A lot of *asanas* work with the spine. It is basically to allow the subtle energies to flow. If your spine is weak or distorted, the energy won't flow. Subtle energy eventually becomes physical energy and is manifested in the circulation."

From a well-being viewpoint, yoga stimulates the endocrine glands and improves blood circulation, digestion and the nervous system. "The postures are made to work on the different organs and balance your glands. If you're overweight and you eat sensibly, you start to lose weight because the thyroid and digestion are put in order. If you're too thin, your appetite is stimulated. They also connect to the inner aspect of our being," says Singh

"*Asanas* is exercise as long as it is taken in the context of yoga. Otherwise, it becomes calisthenics. Unless you present a whole perspective, you can't take one aspect and call it yoga."

Flip side

Why is yoga a big thing nowadays?

"Because of what people are seeing and who are doing it," says Singh. In the '60s, icons of the youth culture such as the Beatles and Mia Farrow popularized yoga in the west. Today, yoga's icons are supermodel Christy Turlington and pop diva Madonna.

Antonio Arando of the Yoga Foundation explains, "People are looking for something. They are awakening to the fact that there is something beyond our physical being. I would like to think there is a sincere motivation to look deeper within them. Since people follow the icons, how can they see the soul when they see the body? On the other hand, because of these celebrities, an awareness has been brought about to touch base with one's being."

Singh comments, "On the flip side, yoga merely becomes an exercise that is incorporated into this and that. It's hazardous for me to say that it's borne of ignorance or exploitation of what is considered a fad."

Arando observes, "The way it's packaged is that you are creating an intense sweat throughout the rest of the class. It wasn't taught to me that way, but it's manifesting here. The stress is on the physical. It's got nothing to do with meditation. The fact that we are doing the sweating, breathing and postures are a preparation to purify both body and mind to get us ready for meditation."

Arando says students come to him for various reasons. "'I want to lose weight.' 'My blood pressure is too high.' 'I'm bored with weights.' 'I've been reading the glossies.' Their reasons for practicing may seem superficial at first. Later they evolve. Whether somebody comes into it for vanity or for another reason, it's life-saving. At the end of the day both are justified," he says.

"That's not to say I'm shying away from people who have an intense desire even if it comes from short-sighted perspective. They are seeking some enlightenment. Some come directly for that. They are led to question meditation and what it's got to do with yoga. These are questions that I like to hear that show the power of the hatha yoga practice. I don't think they ask these questions after they pump iron. Why is yoga different? It's a science that once you embark upon seems to empower you with further awareness. We realize that relaxation is not just crashing out on a bed or passing out. Relaxation is a process of letting go and thinking and bringing something back in," says Arando.

Dangers

To benefit from yoga, one must have the desire to learn it and then find the right teacher.

"If teaching is not passed on correctly, it becomes dangerous," says Arando.

Singh has seen cases of students who took classes under inexperienced teachers. They complained of pulled muscles, injuries and imbalance between the body and the mind. Both Singh and Arando have seen cases where the *asanas* actually stimulated earthly tendencies.

How do you find the right yoga teacher?

Based on our findings, the most popular teachers are Rashmi and Ravi Singh and Arando and Bela Lipat who practice yoga as a lifestyle.

Asked if they studied to be yoga teachers, Singh replies. "It's different if you study for yourself and you study to teach. It doesn't mean that just because you have finished Grade 2, you can teach Grade 1. You need an education degree to teach Grade 1."

Ra Kendra

Ra Kendra teaches yoga by modules of eight sessions. Students graduate into seven modules. Even if somebody has been practicing yoga for 10 years under another teacher, he must start with the basic course.

"You begin with certain premises. Foremost, you have to learn to breathe properly. Then we have exercises for limbering up and opening up the joints. These are not the formal yoga postures yet. These are movements that will help you get into a posture," says Singh. Students are given routines that they can practice every day at home.

"Some are stiff and tight. They tell the mind to allow the body to do the postures." When the students can do the movements properly, then they are accelerated to the higher courses.

Although I've been doing all kinds of bodywork for many years now, I find the classes, even at the beginner level, invigorating. The technique of abdominal breathing that is coordinated with the postures have helped me in dancing and at work. From a dancer's viewpoint, abdominal breathing helps the movements become more expansive and seamless. In the workplace, deep breathing helps me to be conscious of my tone of voice (except when I have to negotiate for more editorial space and deal with irksome callers.) The spinal exercises help me relieve the tightness in my lower back and shoulders due to hours of deskwork.

At Ra Kendra, people become instructors not simply on the basis of their mastery of the exercises but because they had undergone an intensive teacher training course on *asanas* and yoga philosophy. They also study the yoga *sutra* or scriptures.

To be qualified for the teacher's course, students must be disciplined in practicing yoga for at least a year. "When they apply, we ask them why they want to teach. What is the motivation? Is it simply because there's a demand? We need to look for something more comprehensive," says Singh.

"We give courses for them to learn for themselves. They can do it for themselves. They would like to teach because yoga had helped them. Now they'd like to help other people."

Vital to a teacher's *asanas* course are such subjects as physiology and anatomy from the yogic viewpoint. The courses explain how the postures work up the glands and how these are related to the psyche.

Dynamic yoga

Three years ago, when Arando taught yoga at a hotel gym, only three students came to his class. Today, he's one of the most popular teachers in town and even appears in mass-oriented talk shows. His classes are well attended by Manila's social set.

It's not the Ortigas pedigree, mestizo looks and the London accent that are the attraction. Arando is a certified teacher at the Sivananda Yoga Vedanta centers in New York, Canada, the Bahamas. He got into yoga "out of fear." He had gotten sick and the allopathic medicine didn't relieve his mind of anxiety. Yoga was the remedy.

He was reluctant to become a teacher. "I was just happy sitting and meditating," he recalled. However, in the ashram, he had to teach *asanas* as part of his karma yoga or good deed. Since he wasn't vegetarian then, he was made to cook food and eventually became one.

Arando teaches dynamic yoga. The system links postures with movement and an unusual breathing technique called *ujjayi*, which is, according to the manual, "allowing the air to swirl around the back of the throat before continuing its journey to the lungs." The exercises are performed continuously.

"We teach here out of a gym atmosphere, but it's a bit more than just stretches. Hopefully we are coming across the way we want to teach. Yoga is a process that seems to unfold. It's a self-explanatory. The more you practice, the more chances of opening up."

Arando says people tend to loosely define *astanga* (eightfold) yoga with physical yoga, power or sweat.

"This dynamic flow of hatha yoga is different from the passive style wherein you breathe into the postures; stay for as long as you can; come out rested, experience. When we want things fast, in our society, we develop a sense of dynamic style of yoga, which seems to satiate our senses. It changes you fast; it may look cool and it is taught in gyms. This calls for more correct tutelage. If it is not correct teaching, call it a stretch. Don't call it *astanga* yoga or even yoga at all," says Arando.

He observes that many teach yoga as if they were going to a fitness fad. Arando says it makes a difference if the aspirant inculcated *sadhana* (spiritual practice) before becoming a teacher.

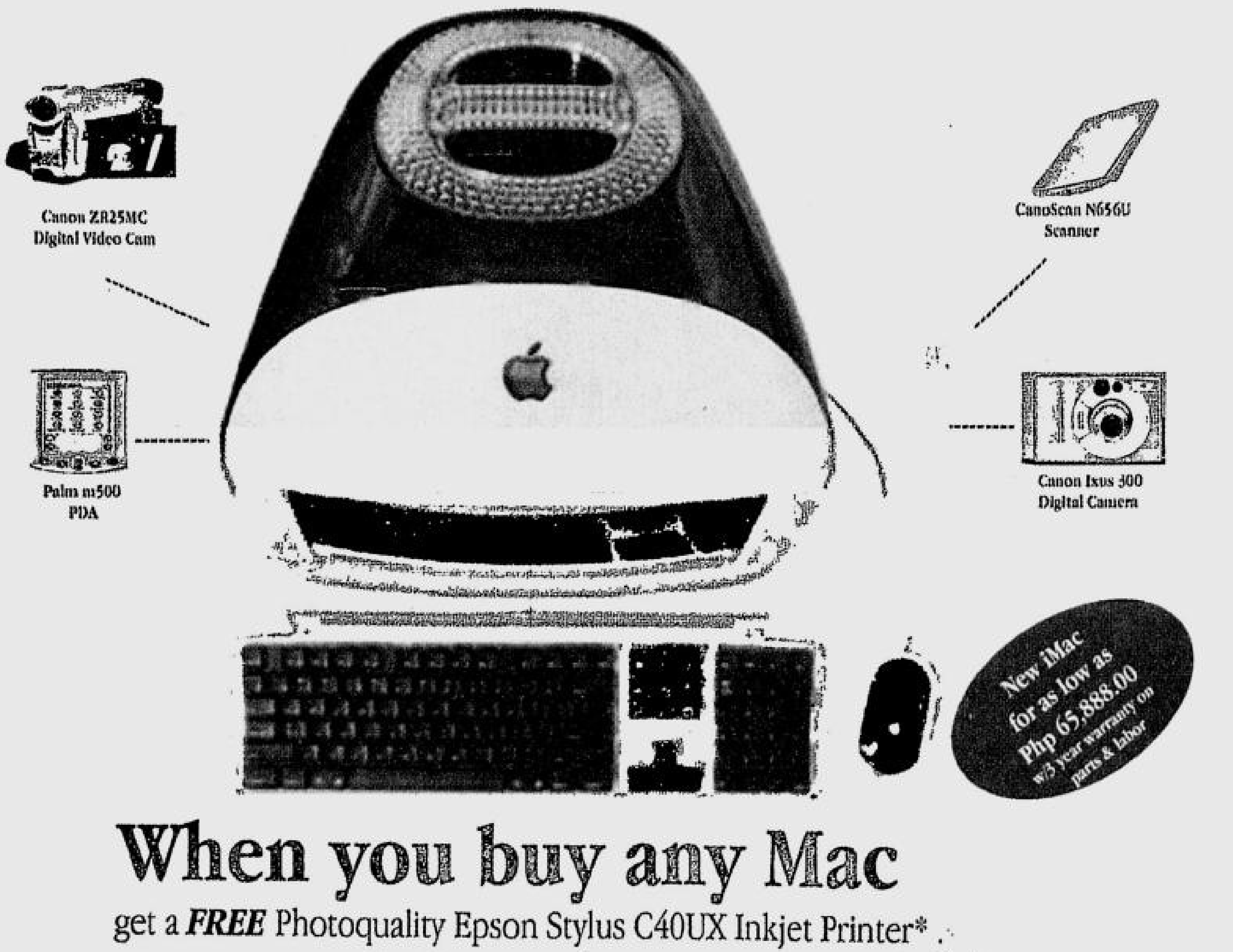
"Without the holistic sense, it turns out to be ego yoga. We are using sophisticated yoga techniques that gurus don't like to divulge. If the other aspects of yoga aren't practiced in conjunction, you can imagine what that can do to somebody who has a selfish view on life," says Arando.

"What I like to think of as cool is when somebody who practices yoga doesn't broadcast it. It is lovely to walk on the earth to leave deep footprints. The way you spread yoga is apparent. It's better if you are doing something special and affecting others rather than doing yoga classes for a couple of weeks and trying out as a yoga teacher."

Ra Kendra has a list of certified yoga teachers. Call 843-6142, 893-0157, e-mail rakendra@info.com.ph, or visit G-IC Gallery Building, Amorsolo St., Makati City.

Antonio and Sandy Arando teach at various venues. Call the Yoga Foundation of the Philippines at 515-1268, e-mail yoga_philippines@yahoo.com, or visit Unit B-20 2680 F.B. Harrison, Pasay City

Apple
Your digital life starts here. For less..



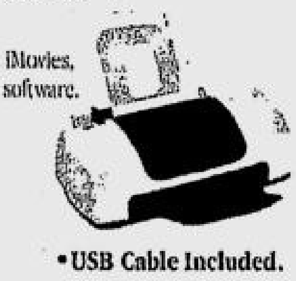
When you buy any Mac
get a ***FREE*** Photoquality Epson Stylus C40UX Inkjet Printer*.

Now's the time to buy your Mac. They're fast,easy to use, and loaded with features. Express yourself by creating your own iMovies, Use iTunes to rip MP3s from your favorite CDs, or burn custom CDs.Enhance your work with productivity and graphics software. And share Windows and Microsoft Office files with anyone.
The benefits add up - just like the savings.

Save even more when you also buy these great products:
Canon Digital Video Camera ZR25MC, Canon Ixus 300, Canon N656U Scanner,Palm m500.
Buy any one or all of these devices and enjoy ***INCREDIBLE SAVINGS!!!***

Offer good between 10 Sept.2001 and 24 October 2001.

Participating AppleCenters: AppleMac Outpost (Alabang) 807-1571 • Power Mac Center (Megamall) 633-7452
Participating Apple Resellers: AppleMac Outpost(Makati) 812-7967 • AppleZone(Pasig)632-0542 • LMK Commercial(Makati)852-2554 • Senco Link(Makati)893-4103 • Silicon Valley(SM City)927-5851,(SM Megamall)633-1723, (Park Square 1)752-7961 • Xurand Zolutions(Quezon City)893-0167 • Ynzal Marketing(Quezon City)373-2232 • CBX Corporation (Cebu City) 032-3462383 • Silicon Valley(Cebu City)032-2340456 • Digital Interface(Davao City) 082-2240472
Apple Authorized Gold Service Center: Diversitec Distributors, Phils.(Shaw) 721-2496 • MSI Digiland(Libis) 439-7777 • Power Mac Center (San Juan) 725-2358 • Senco Link Technologies(Makati) 893-4103



•USB Cable Included.

EPSON Canon palm

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1425 Series of 2001

Yoga teacher shows the path to happiness

BELA Lipat describes herself as a reluctant yoga teacher. She started meditating at the age of 6 and has been serious about yoga since 1988. In 1997, she took up a training course in a yoga ashram in Rikishesh and practices yoga taught by Sivananda.

People have been asking her if yoga can make them look like Madonna or Christy Turlington who appeared on the cover of Time magazine's issue on yoga.

"I told them to go the gym. She got those muscles from doing the Stairmaster and weights. Turlington has the genetics to be tall and skinny," says Lipat.

She observes that yoga has become a fitness craze like taebo, step and high- and low-impact aerobics.

"In the Philippines, we follow what's going on in the west. We inhale everything that they do. We want everything from technology to glitz and glamour. What do we want as a society? It's not that profound," says Lipat.

While others may teach a set routine that gradually progresses, Lipat presents some basic movements and adds a variety of *asanas* (postures). Lipat prefers to share the philosophical aspect of yoga.

"My objective is to get students onto a path and bring them to their own happiness so they can unfold their happiness inside. It begins with working on the gross and bringing them deeper into their mind and linking that to breath. The mind is interconnected with the breath. They would know these aspects. My objective is to share what I have experienced.

Asked about the point of taking up a yoga class if you're going to snack on a hamburger, Lipat replies, "I don't know. Everybody has their own way of doing things. There is no harmony with their thoughts, speech and actions. Then they wonder why they're not happy."

Marge Enriquez

Lipat teaches at The Spa of RCBC Plaza. Call 845-3480

THE E-MED TEAM. Doctors Ellen Bautista, Alexander Afable, Martin Romano, Sylvia Bruan, Florentino Subion, Rogin Sison and Marc Reyes

New doctors on the block

A NEW team of highly qualified emergency physicians changes the medical landscape for Southern Metro Manila residents with the recent opening of E-Med 24-hour emergency clinic.

E-Med is a membership-based ambulatory clinic that offers round-the-clock and next-door convenience of an outpatient clinic backed by a high-caliber medical team from Makati Medical Center, the first medical facility in the country to offer specialization in emergency procedures.

Dr. Sylvia Bruan, E-Med president, says, "Accidents and emergencies do happen in our homes and through E-Med, we can help save lives by providing immediate treatment to patients before they can be brought to a hospital."

Joining Bruan in the team are Doctors Florentino Subion Jr., Marc Reyes, Martin Romano, Rogin Sison, Alexander Afable and Ellen Bautista. With their skills and dedication, they aim to bring professional and quality medical services to residents of the nearby village, subdivision, town, barangay and its immediate environment.

This community-based medical station is likewise equipped with a wide range of industry-approved facilities for ambulance services as well as X-ray apparatus and stabilization equipment to aid the doctors in attending to daily medical requirements and emergency needs.

Apart from emergency procedures, E-Med also offers 24-hour laboratory services, X-ray and other medical services in the areas of cardiology, pediatrics, ENT, dermatology and immunization for children and adults.

More importantly, E-Med membership is very affordable. For only P605 per annum, E-Med members can enjoy unlimited medical consultations, 20-percent off on X-ray and laboratory fees, and other professional emergency treatment and appropriate medical solutions.

E-Med 24-hour emergency clinic is at 37 Aguirre Ave. , BF Homes, Parañaque City. Call 807-3108 or 772-2352/2347.

Brahma Kumaris holds seminar

GOOD health is every person's goal because it is his natural state.

Disease, being an infraction of this unwritten law, requires mindful healing for one to get back into the universal hum. The body runs on a rhythm that should not be disrupted but instead kept constant in the shelter of a positive and sensible lifestyle.

Re-emerging and enhancing this rhythm is the subject of a twin (body-mind) discussion titled "Health and Well-Being," set 6:30-8 p.m. on Sept 30 at the Mondragon House Ballroom on Buendia Avenue Extension, Makati.

Speakers are Dr. Nirmala Kajaria, director of the Brahma Kumaris Meditation Centers in Australia, New Zealand and the Asia-Pacific region, and Dr. Jaime Z. Galvez Tan, president and chief executive officer of Health Futures Foundation Inc. and former health secretary.

Thursday's program, organized by Brahma Kumaris Manila, is open to the public. Call 890-7960 or 922-9231.

Run, walk against breast cancer

ALL women, regardless of age, race or creed, are invited to support the fight against breast cancer.

October is being promoted by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Philippine Cancer Society (PCS) and its partners as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

To launch the observance, a 5-K Run/Walk Against Breast Cancer will be held on Oct. 7, 6-8 a.m. at the Cultural Center of the Philippines Complex, Roxas Boulevard. The event is strictly for women.

Invitations have been extended to schools, cancer survivor support groups, civic clubs and social associations to send representatives to the 5-K run/walk.

The event is sponsored by Avon Philippines, a PCS-DOH partner which has been undertaking an information campaign on breast cancer since 1994 as part of its women's health corporate program, and Race.

The awareness campaign seeks to make more women take responsibility for their well-being by practicing monthly breast self-examination, following a healthy lifestyle and having regular medical check-ups.

The breast is the leading cancer site among Filipinas, with about 9,000 new cases diagnosed and 4,000 deaths yearly. The country has the highest breast cancer rates in Asia.

A registration fee of P30 is requested of all participants. Net proceeds will finance the continuing breast cancer control activities of the Philippine Cancer Society.

Registration forms are available at the PCS office, 310 San Rafael St., San Miguel, Manila and at the G/F Vasquez Madrigal Building, Annapolis Street, Greenhills, San Juan. Race kits will be issued to all registrants. Trophies will be given to three winners, and a plaque to the school with the biggest participation.

Call 734-2131/2114/2127.

Mind & body workouts that guarantee results

PILATES
CAROLYN LIM

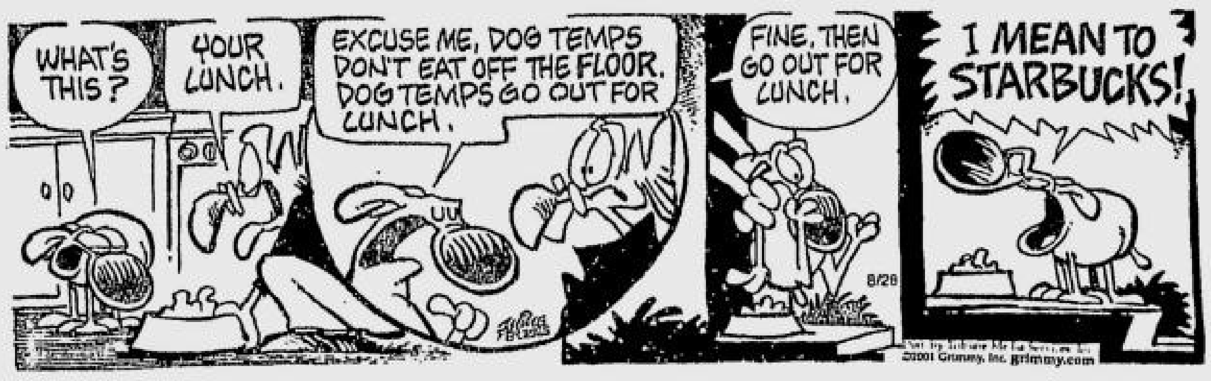
We offer mat classes and personal training sessions
Allegro (Group Reformer) Classes

BALANCED BODY STUDIO

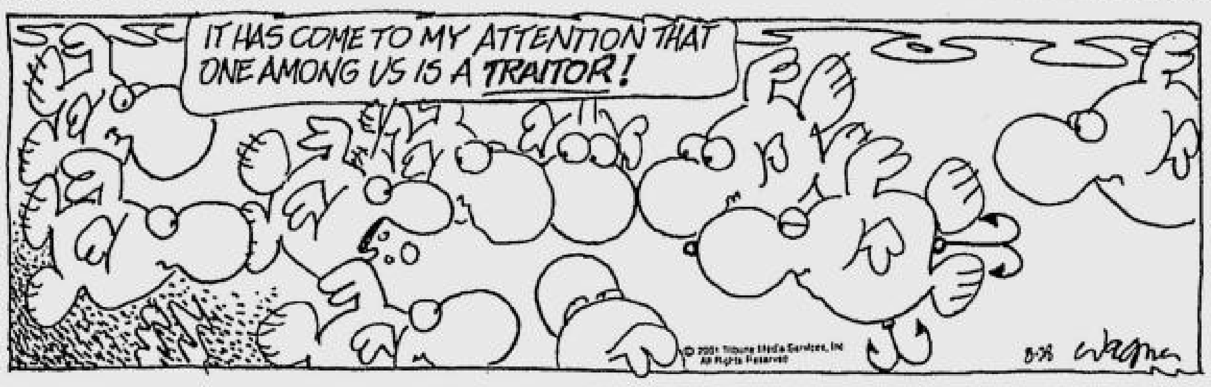
7th Floor Renaissance Tower F, Meralco Ave., Pasig City
Tel: 633-4574, 823-8067 to 69

LONGBILOG!
TAPBILOG!
TOCIBILOG!
BAR-B-LOG!
PURE FOODS
PRITONG PINOY
Wow! Siguradong bibilog ang mata
ng inyong pamilya 'pag nakita nila ang paborito nilang
tapa, tocino, longganisa at barbecue ngayon!
Almusal, tanghalian o hapunan, instant ulam na.
Sarap ng lasang Pinoy, huling-huli ng Pritong Pinoy!
Alanghap Sarap!
NEW PRITONG PINOY BARBEQUE Slices
PRITONG PINOY BEEF TAPA Slices
PRITONG PINOY LONGANISA Slices
PRITONG PINOY PORK TOCINO
PUREFOODS HORMEL

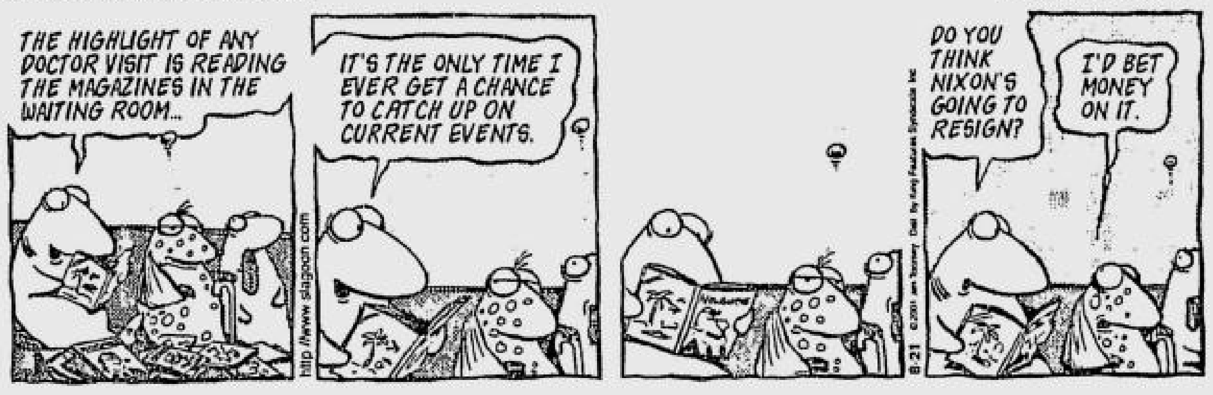
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM BY MIKE PETERS


WHAT'S THIS?
YOUR LUNCH.
EXCUSE ME, DOG TEMPS DON'T EAT OFF THE FLOOR. DOG TEMPS GO OUT FOR LUNCH.
FINE, THEN GO OUT FOR LUNCH.
I MEAN TO STARBUCKS!
8/28
©2001 Grimmy, Inc. grimmy.com

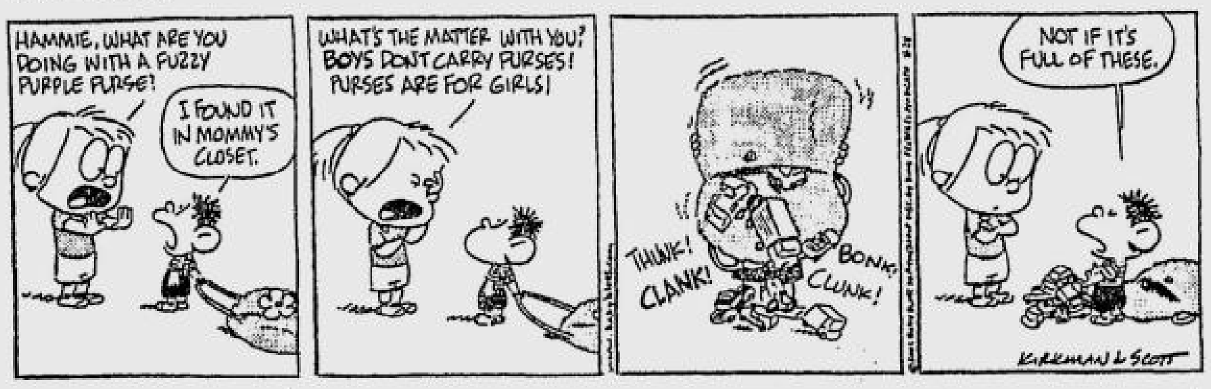
ANIMAL CRACKER BY FRED WAGNER


IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION THAT ONE AMONG US IS A TRAITOR!
© 2001 Tribune Media Services, Inc All Rights Reserved
8-28 Wagner

SHERMAN'S LAGOON BY JIM TOOMEY


THE HIGHLIGHT OF ANY DOCTOR VISIT IS READING THE MAGAZINES IN THE WAITING ROOM...
IT'S THE ONLY TIME I EVER GET A CHANCE TO CATCH UP ON CURRENT EVENTS.
DO YOU THINK NIXON'S GOING TO RESIGN?
I'D BET MONEY ON IT.
http://www.slagoon.com
8-21

BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT


HAMMIE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH A FUZZY PURPLE PURSE?
I FOUND IT IN MOMMY'S CLOSET.
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? BOYS DON'T CARRY PURSES! PURSES ARE FOR GIRLS!
THUNK! CLANK!
BONK! CLUNK!
NOT IF IT'S FULL OF THESE.
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Will Smith, Heather Locklear, Barbara Walters, Michael Douglas, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Mark Hamill, Christopher Reeve, Scottie Pippen

Happy Birthday: Your energy may be high, but that doesn't mean you should take on the world this year. If you pick projects with care, you'll move forward and achieve a lot. However, if you try to do too much for everyone else, you'll be disappointed and fall short of your expectations. Your numbers: 7, 12, 15, 31, 38, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Ignore colleagues who appear to be going in circles. You have more than enough on your plate already. Don't make large purchases unless you have shopped around and done sufficient research.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will be craving a change. Pick yourself up and take to the road if possible. If not, try something new: a restaurant, entertainment or an interesting course.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Be frugal; things cost more than you anticipate. If you are penny-wise now, you will reap the rewards . Learning will be the salvation today, so pick up an informative book or surf the net.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Opportunity for partnerships knocks. You should be able to take business or personal relationships to a higher level. Don't be shy; your warmth will capture their interest.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Develop some of your good ideas and think about going into business for yourself. Moneymaking ventures may turn your life around. Don't hesitate to pick up a pet for a companion.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Get out and have some fun. You don't socialize nearly enough. You should enjoy playing games with children or with good friends today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You're undergoing changes. Go with the flow and don't let the unsettled atmosphere get on your nerves. Adding a sophisticated touch will help create the look you're trying to capture.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): This is a great day to say the heck with it. You need a break, so take one. Call up a close friend and invite him or her to join you. It's time to stop being so serious.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Implement your thoughts into your projects at work. Colleagues and employers will admire your diplomatic way of handling a tough job. Give yourself a pat on the back.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may find yourself in an emotional fix. Get out and do something physical. It will help you make your decision based on clarity and a well-thought-out plan. Spend quality time with children and friends.

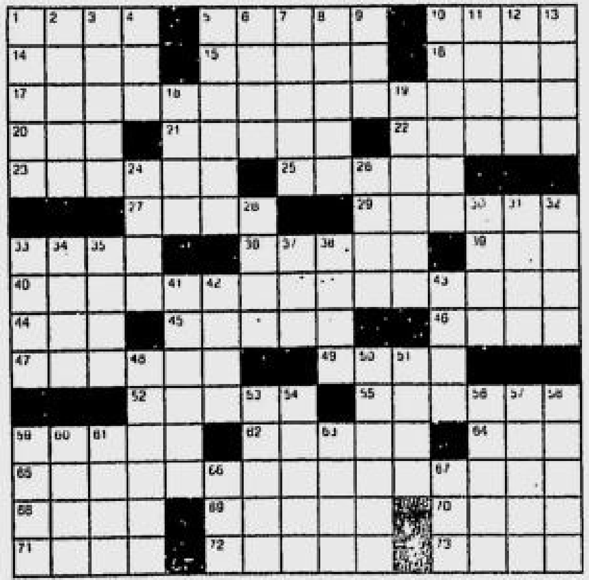
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Direct your energy wisely. You'll be tempted to become involved in secret affairs or love triangles. It is wise to rely on your ability to fantasize to avoid embarrassment.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Get involved in groups you believe in, but don't be too giving. You can't promise to take on things that require at least two or more people to do.

Birthday Baby: You are a dedicated, determined individual who will make a difference to those you meet along life's path. You have clear vision and are practical and loving.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Jame E. Buell
Edgewater, FL

8/10/01

ACROSS
1 Possess
5 Change gears
10 Catch sight of
14 Elliptical
15 Paddle craft
16 Navajo's neighbor
17 Start of a TV time-out line
20 Wrath
21 Sluggish
22 Less favorable
23 All of one's assets
25 Spooky
27 Hatchlings' home
29 One of Cleveland's nine
33 Top point
36 Speak in a formal manner
39 Scheduled to arrive
40 Part 2 of TV time-out line
44 Pull one's leg
45 Sifter
46 Word of dejection
47 Fragrances
49 Hole-making tools
52 Surpass
55 Dismount
59 Brainy
62 Bertinelli's Van Halen
64 Long scarf
65 End of TV time-out line
68 __ mater
69 __ welcome!
70 Seagirt land
71 Compact Dodge
72 Packing heat
73 Disorderly state of affairs

DOWN
1 Long or Mandel
2 Swears
3 Parking attendant
4 Hospital wing
5 Act parts
6 Despise
7 Habituate
8 Specialty
9 Decade count
10 Chased off
11 Impoverished
12 Numbered musical composition
13 Spare part?
18 Ceremony
19 Twists together
24 Once again
26 Michael Caine movie, "Educating __"
28 Carryall bag
30 False god
31 Saintly glow
32 Seines
33 Requests
34 In vogue
35 A la __
37 Gun the engine
38 Surface size
41 Shrewd
42 Clenched fingers
43 Lock with a pin
48 Painter Rockwell
50 Spent one's time idly
51 Singer Lisa
53 Furnishings
54 Intense dislike
56 Seriously chubby
57 Stable youngsters
58 Forgeries
59 Glance over
60 Sleeper spy
61 Bullets, for short
63 Be bold
66 Hand-woven rug
67 Outer edge

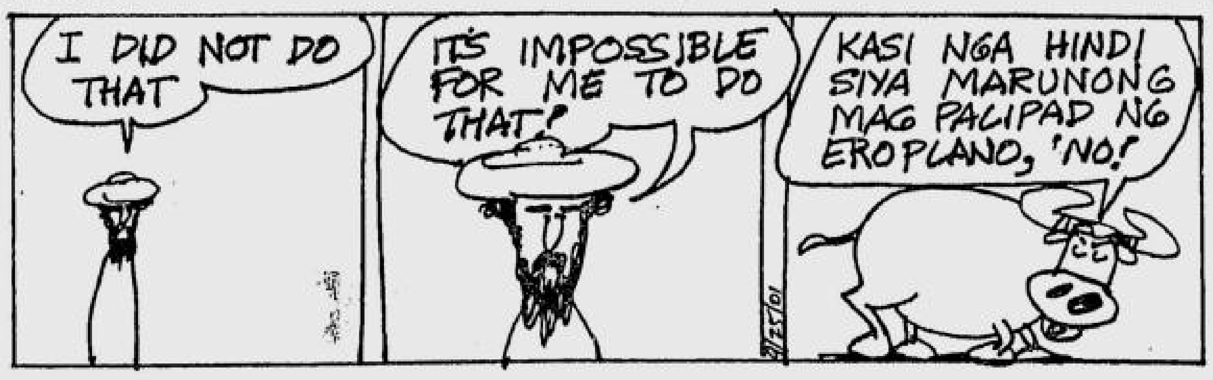
PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

B	R	A	T		E	C	L	A	T		A	D	O	S
A	O	N	E		L	O	O	S	E		B	R	A	E
C	L	E	A	N	E	D	T	H	E	S	L	A	T	E
H	E	W		E	V	E	S			T	A	P	E	R
			W	O	E	S		G	R	A	Z	E	R	S
J	O	H	A	N	N		C	L	O	V	E			
A	K	I	N			O	R	A	T	E		B	U	S
M	A	D	E	A	F	R	E	S	H	S	T	A	R	T
B	Y	E		C	U	B	E	S			O	L	G	A
			A	C	R	I	D		S	M	O	K	E	R
F	A	N	B	E	L	T		P	O	E	T			
A	L	O	U	D			T	E	R	M		S	K	I
C	L	O	S	E	D	T	H	E	B	O	O	K	O	N
E	A	S	E		A	W	A	K	E		R	I	N	K
D	Y	E	S		M	O	I	S	T		E	D	G	Y

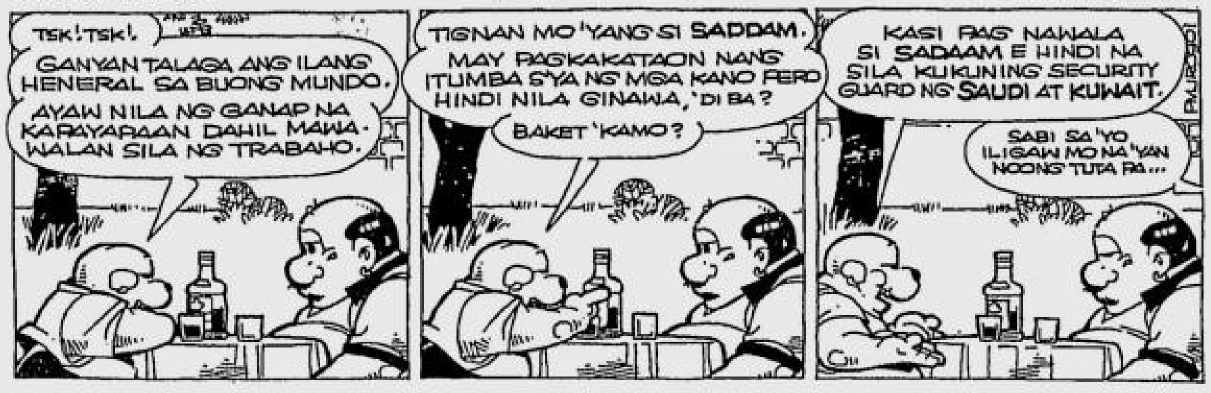
(C)2001 Tribune Media Services, Inc
All rights reserved.

8/15/01

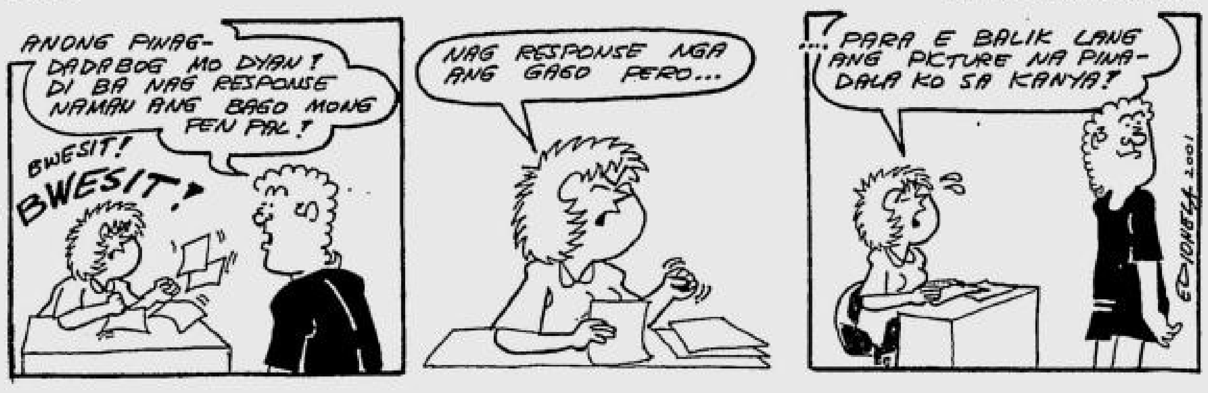
A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA


I DID NOT DO THAT
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO DO THAT!
KASI NGA HINDI SIYA MARUNONG MAG PALIPAD NG EROPLANO, 'NO!
9/25/01

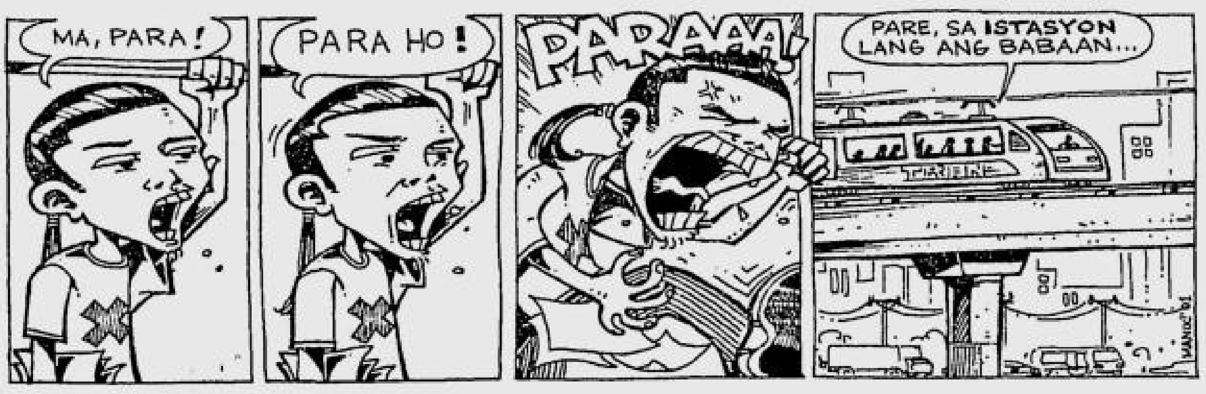
PUGAD BABOY BY P.M. JUNIOR


TSK! TSK!.
GANYAN TALAGA ANG ILANG HENERAL SA BUONG MUNDO.
AYAW NILA NG GANAP NA KARAYARAAN DAHIL MAWA-WALAN SILA NG TRABAHO.
TIGNAN MO 'YANG SI SADDAM. MAY PAGKAKATAON NANG ITUMBA S'YA NG MGA KANO PERO HINDI NILA GINAWA, 'DI BA?
BAKET 'KAMO?
KASI PAG NAWALA SI SADAAM E HINDI NA SILA KUKUNING SECURITY GUARD NG SAUDI AT KUWAIT.
SABI SA 'YO ILIGAW MO NA 'YAN NOONG TUTA PA...
PMJR2001

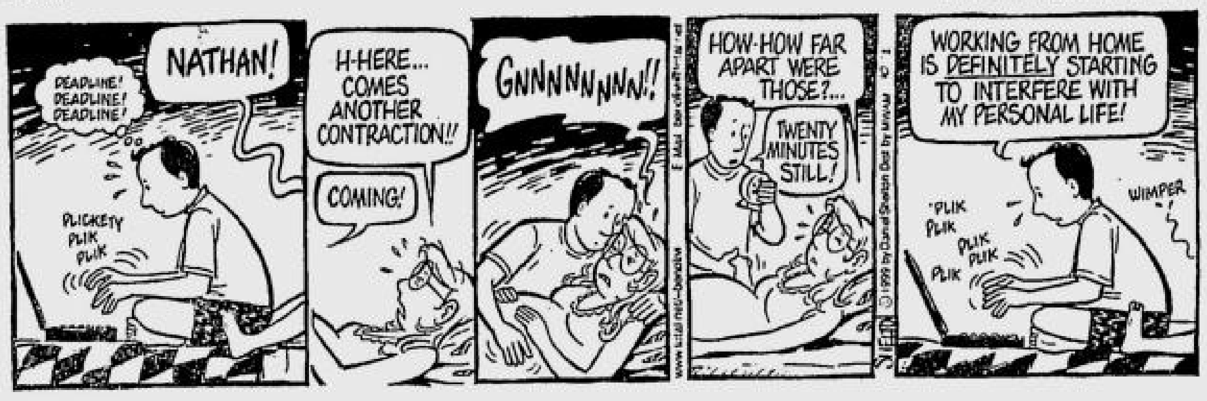
SIMO BY EDGAR DIONELA


ANONG PINAG-DADABOG MO DYAN? DI BA NAG RESPONSE NAMAN ANG BAGO MONG PEN PAL?
BWESIT! BWESIT!
NAG RESPONSE NGA ANG GAGO PERO...
...PARA E BALIK LANG ANG PICTURE NA PINA-DALA KO SA KANYA!
EDIONELA 2001

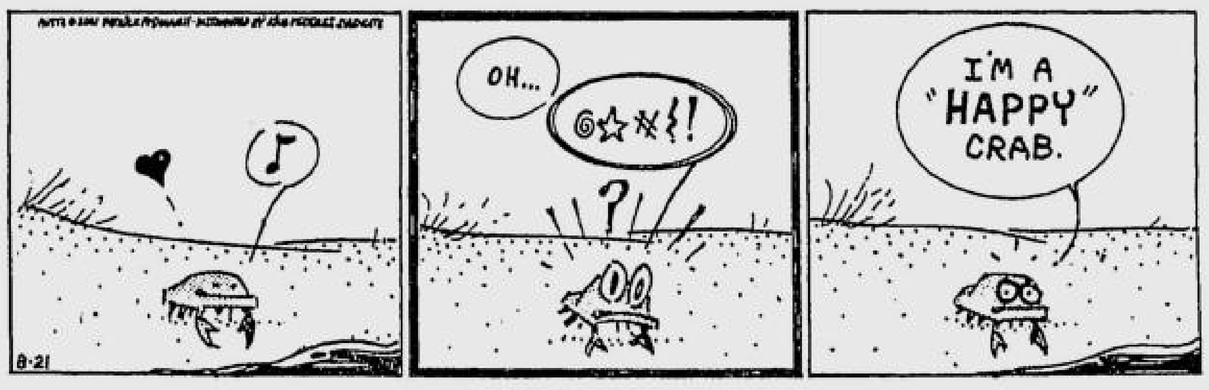
GARAPATA BLOOD BY JOHN PAUL/BENG/MANIX


MA, PARA!
PARA HO!
PARAAA!
PARE, SA ISTASYON LANG ANG BABAAN...
MANIX '01

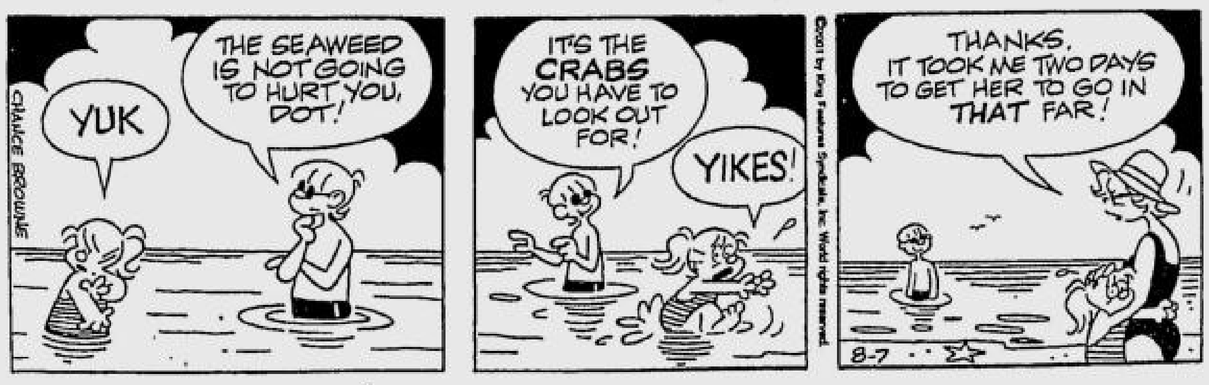
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON


DEADLINE! DEADLINE! DEADLINE!
NATHAN!
PLICKETY PLIK PLIK
H-HERE... COMES ANOTHER CONTRACTION!!
COMING!
GNNNNNNNN!!
HOW-HOW FAR APART WERE THOSE?...
TWENTY MINUTES STILL!
WORKING FROM HOME IS DEFINITELY STARTING TO INTERFERE WITH MY PERSONAL LIFE!
PLIK PLIK PLIK PLIK PLIK
WIMPER

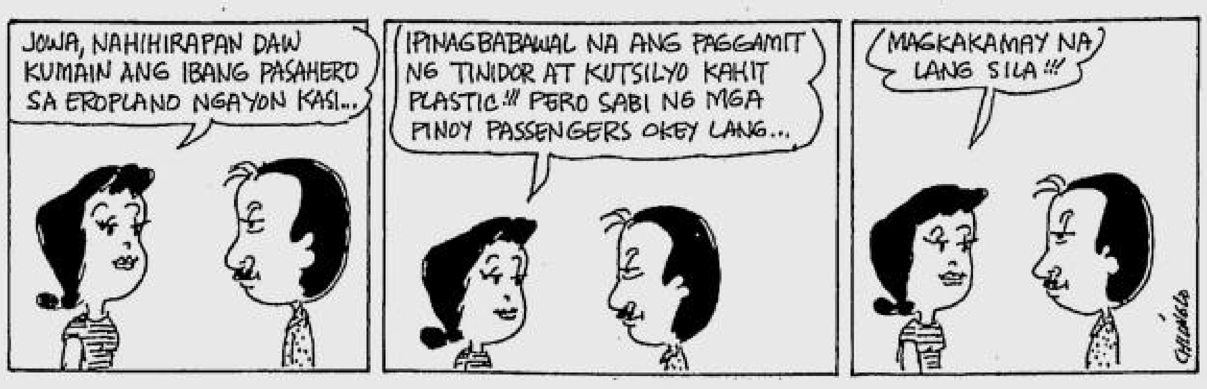
MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL


8-21
OH...
@☆*!
?
I'M A "HAPPY" CRAB.

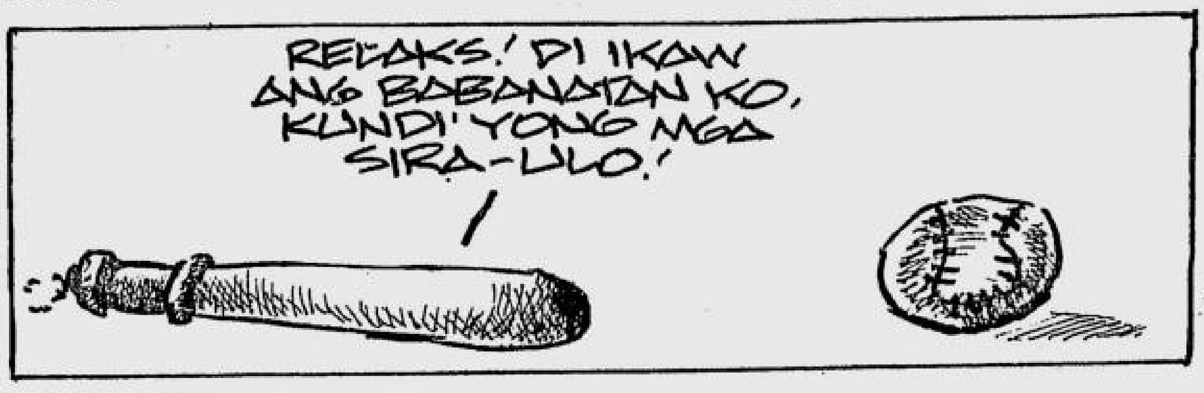
HI AND LOIS BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER


CHANCE BROWNE
YUK
THE SEAWEED IS NOT GOING TO HURT YOU, DOT!
IT'S THE CRABS YOU HAVE TO LOOK OUT FOR!
YIKES!
©2001 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
THANKS. IT TOOK ME TWO DAYS TO GET HER TO GO IN THAT FAR!
8-7

LOVEKNOTS BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


JOWA, NAHIHIRAPAN DAW KUMAIN ANG IBANG PASAHERO SA EROPLANO NGAYON KASI...
IPINAGBABAWAL NA ANG PAGGAMIT NG TINIDOR AT KUTSILYO KAHIT PLASTIC!!! PERO SABI NG MGA PINOY PASSENGERS OKEY LANG...
MAGKAKAMAY NA LANG SILA!!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING


RELAKS! DI IKAW ANG BABANATAN KO, KUNDI YONG MGA SIRA-ULO!

Hindi lang plema ang problema sa ubo.

Pamamaga ng air passage, dapat din tanggalin!

Twin Target

Loviscol®

WHITEHALL
Loviscol

Carbocisteine

Tanggal PLEMA Tanggal MAGA

Tanggal UBO

WHITEHALL

For further information,please write to the medical department of Wyeth Philippines, Inc. 2236 Pasong Tamo Makati.

Also available in Adult Suspension and Pediatric Syrup.

How to make your home workout time-efficient

WELL AND GOOD

Tina Aboitiz Juan

> Working out at home requires motivation to push you to exercise and discipline to stick to a schedule

Mahal Kita Alicia Cielo-Camilla! Por Favor!
O, Manuel mahal Ko!
StephB

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

IF done right, working out at home can be a real time-saver because you only need to go as far as your bedroom or living room. But if done wrong, not only can it be time-consuming, you may not even get any exercise done at all. This is because working out at home requires a fair amount of motivation to push you to exercise and an equal amount of discipline to stick to a schedule. Here are tips to make your home workout time-efficient.

Set a specific time to exercise

You will be more successful if you block off a specific time for exercise. If you don't, so many things can get in the way that days can pass and you still will not have "found" the time to work out. This is especially true if you are a homemaker or you have a home office because you become complacent about your exercise time since you are home all day. Exercising in the morning is the most practical because you can get it out of the way before your day really starts but whatever time you choose, make an effort to stick to it. Tell everyone that your exercise time is sacred to you. Make sure that you believe this, too, because you can be your worst enemy. I know someone who would still be in her workout gear at the end of the day but she had not done a minute of exercise because she kept putting it off. It was ironic because she would have two-week periods when she would not exercise but she looked like she was an aerobics instructor.

Hold all calls

Tell your helpers or members of your family to hold all your calls when you exercise unless you are expecting a very important call. I also suggest putting your cell phone on silent or directing your calls to your voice mailbox. Three things will happen if you are interrupted constantly by telephone calls while you exercise: Your workout will take much longer than necessary, you will lose your interest in exercising and stop, or you will rush through your workout to make up for lost time.

Keep the kids away

It is not a good idea to work out with kids running around not only because of time concerns but also because of safety issues. Little fingers can get caught in the running belt of a treadmill or between the weight stacks of a strength-training machine. Even something as simple as an exercise rubber band can become a deadly weapon in the hands of a curious and mischievous kid. Imagine what they can do with dumbbells! In this country, we are fortunate to have household help to watch our kids while we have other things to do. Instruct your helper to entertain your young children and keep them away while you exercise. Older kids should understand that mom or dad should not be disturbed while they work out unless it is a matter of life and death.

Be organized

Big pieces of equipment like a multi-station strength machine or a treadmill are too heavy to get misplaced but small pieces of equipment like dumbbells, exercise mats and rubber bands have a tendency to disappear if several members of the family share them. So forget about being time-efficient if every time you exercise you have to hunt around your whole house for the missing accessories. You should have a designated place for all exercise equipment and everyone should follow a simple rule: Return what you use to its proper place.

Stay focused

One of the great things about working out at home is that you could be in your pajamas watching TV while you do your abdominal crunches or bicep curls. However, this can also be the reason your workouts take forever. It's so easy to get glued to your favorite talk show in between sets. Then, before you know it, five or 10 minutes have passed. In a gym, there is usually a fitness trainer who calls your attention when you are talking too much to a friend or you have become comatose staring at the TV monitors while sitting on one of the strength machines. At home, there is no such friendly warning so you have to get creative to keep your mind on your exercise and not get sidetracked. When I work out at home, I stay focused between sets by setting the alarm on my cell phone to ring after one minute.

If working out with friends . . .

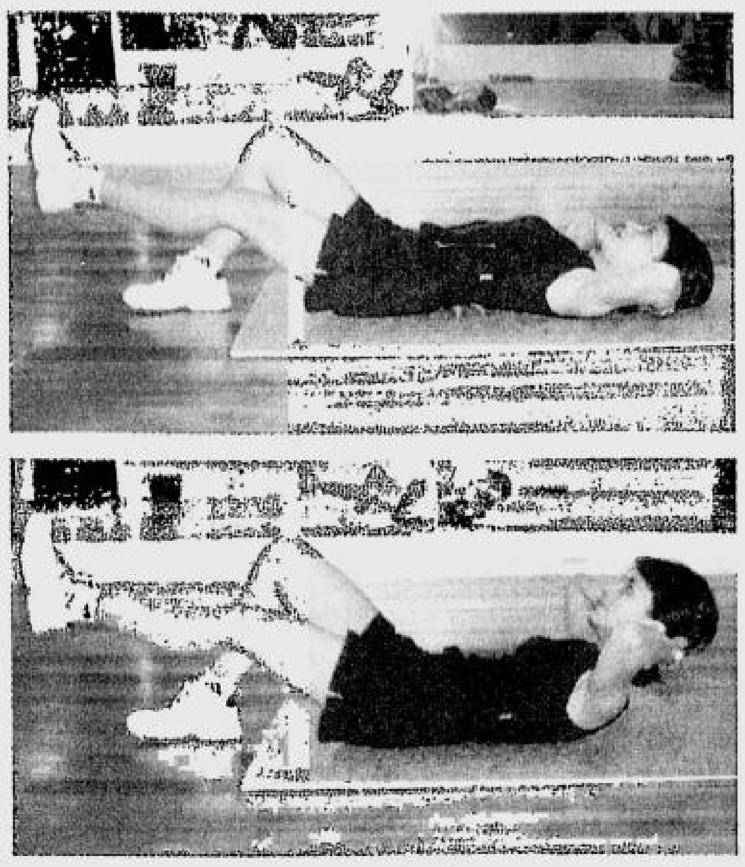
Exercising with your friends can be great fun and a way to hit two birds with one stone—socialize and get fit. But friends can be a major cause of delay if they don't arrive on time, chatter incessantly in between exercises, or stay longer than is necessary after the exercise session. I know someone who stopped having her friends over to work out at home because some of them just lingered on the whole day and she couldn't get anything else done. Set the rules by starting on time even if the whole gang isn't there yet. Put a lid on the chatting during exercise and set a time limit for fellowship after the session. If everyone knows the rules, no one should get offended when you say, "See you tomorrow!" as you head off into your room to take a shower and start your day.

If working out with a personal trainer . . .

Exercising under the supervision of a personal trainer is usually a time-saver because a professional is running the show in terms of a well-designed exercise program and sticking to a schedule. However, things can still go wrong if you or your trainer is consistently late and neither of you has the guts to correct the other person. A lot of people tell me that it is hard to find a trainer who is a stickler for starting and ending on time. On the other hand, personal trainers tell me horror stories about clients who make them wait forever because they are still talking on the phone to a friend or they are still out shopping. Both parties should be considerate enough to realize that time is money and it is rude to keep people waiting.

For past articles and exercises, visit www.tinajuanfitness.com

EXERCISE OF THE WEEK



One-leg abdominal crunch

STRENGTHENS and tightens abdominal muscles

Equipment:
Exercise mat

Exercise technique:

1. Lie on your back with hands under head and one leg straight, the other bent.
2. Tighten your abdominal muscles and lift the straight leg a few inches off the floor.
3. While you hold the raised leg stationary, curl your upper torso.
4. Slowly lower both the leg and upper torso at the same time.
5. Do the desired number of repetitions, then do the other leg.

Performance tips:

1. Raising the leg a few inches off the floor is harder than raising it higher. Choose the height at which you can still maintain control over your abdominal muscles. If you feel your lower back overarching or your belly "popping" out, you need to modify the movement by raising the leg higher.
2. Try the following variation: Lift the torso first, then the leg. Lower the torso, then the leg.

Repetitions:
Ten to 12 repetitions per leg

Sport climbing finals held at Glorietta

THE GLORIETTA Activity Center was filled with spectators and aficionados who witnessed the 2001 National Sport Climbing Championships last Sept. 16.

In the ladies' intercollegiate division, the top 3 climbers were Nina Gonzalo and Ina Flores (UP Diliman) and Jennifer Suan (Iligan Medical Center College). UP Diliman won the race with a total of 200 points.

Iligan fought back with its best male climbers from MSU Iligan Institute of Technology: Enrico Galang Jr., Omar Montoya and Josef Panerio who got a total of 245 points against Miel Pahati, Dadsie Coscolluela and Affie Yap of the University of Asia & the Pacific.

In the women's open, a tight match transpired between the country's No. 2 climber Lissa Lesaca and Iligan's top bet Suan with scores at 13.1 flat and 13.1, respectively. Lesaca's fast and accurate climb earned her this year's title.

Joanne Songalia, junior B speed climbing champion and the youngest finalist, also gave an outstanding performance with a 12.2+ score in only 3 minutes and 5 seconds. Other lithe and strong-limbed finalists were lock-off queen Barbara Ramiro (12.1-), Power-Up instructors Marie Calica (9.1 +) and Shane Buzon (12.3-) with the fastest climb at 2 minutes and 58 seconds.

Simon Sandoval proved to be truly No.1 as he won the men's category with the highest score of 13.2 flat. Asian championships silver medalist Marvin John Ilanan came in second after a count back as Power-Up instructor Erwin Gozum tied up with the same score of 13.1-.

SIMON Sandoval shows off his sport climbing talent. He emerged as over-all champion in men's division.

The rest of the finalists were Virgilio Advincula (12.2+) with the fastest climb at 2 minutes and 2 seconds, intercollegiate Galang (11.4-) and juniors champion and youngest finalist Andrew Robles (12.2-) with yet another amazing performance.

Celebrity guest climbers Dyan Castillejo, Zoren Legaspi, Maricel Morales and Ace Espinosa wowed the audience with their climbing skills. Amongst the four, Legaspi reached farthest nearly topping off the mount.

Meanwhile, in the speed climbing open, defending champion Mau Gaite failed to regain his title as Xtian Guerrero put off a swift steady climb while Ilanan finished third.

At the women's end, young sensations Flores and Suan once again astounded fans with their deftness. Flores finished first while Suan came in second. Buzon won third place.

Speed climbing open champs Guerrero and Flores will go to Kuala Lumpur to represent the Philippines in next year's X Games.

Another highlight of this year's tournament was the announcement of the national team members who are also scheduled to represent the Philippines in the Asian Championships to be held in Jakarta, Indonesia on Oct. 27-28. The men's list consists of Sandoval/Gozum (#1), Vidal (#3), Advincula (#4) and Ilanan (#5). Women's record includes Lesaca (#1), Suan (#2), Buzon (#3), Ramiro (#4) and Kristine Robles (#5).

Cool fashion event

CONVERSE, one of the leading global sports footwear and apparel brands, showcases its athletic originals and action sports footwear, apparel and accessories collections in a mall tour show entitled "Converse Lifestyle."

Due to the overwhelming response by the public, Converse Lifestyle, originally slated as a four-stop fashion show mall tour, has extended its activity not only in four mall shops but to seven mall places till the last week of September. This fashion event features a combination of both classic designs and up-to-date street and sports wear. Converse Lifestyle displays the brand's latest attire collection, including caps, shirts, shorts, jeans and footwear, with distinctive style and impressive color combinations.

"Converse footwear, apparel and accessories have been famous among young people especially in segments that enjoy creativity like musicians, artists and gen-X sports enthusiasts," reveals Kim Sia, vice president for marketing of Filcon, the licensee for Converse in the Philippines. "Converse has maintained its following among young ones due to the brand's unique heritage of smart and tasteful designs without compromising comfort and affordability."

With the versatile and trendy selection of footwear that suits any individual's taste, the Converse athletic originals has been the preference of the stylish youth. This attractive line of footwear includes the famed Chuck Taylor, which has been a worldwide phenomenon since the 1920s, as well as Converse Jack Purcell, which is today's teen favorite in the US, Europe and Asia. The category includes One-Star V-3, All-Star Wrecker and All-Star Infinity.

Converse action sports collection, on the other hand, represents the cool, carefree disposition that young ones strive to achieve. This collection gives the youth a choice between being casual with a touch of style or being fashionable with a blend of zest. Converse action sports is tailor-made for the youth's upbeat and aggressive attitude.

The Converse action sports collection includes cross-training shoes like Authentic Training, Converse He:01, which is guaranteed light with its helium technology; skateboarding footwear like Kenny Pro-1, El Duque, CS Pro-4; and the water resistant Eco line lead by Eco Helium.

The Converse Lifestyle show will visit SM Fairview on Sept. 29.

Medical clinic offers free consultation

HEALTHWAY Medical Clinics-Binondo is celebrating its first anniversary today with special promos.

HMC-Binondo gives free medical consultations with an ob-gyn, pediatrician, cardiologist, ophthalmologist, urologist and aesthetic surgeon. The clinic also offers major discounts on laboratory and diagnostic tests. Patients get 30 percent discount on allergy screening tests as well as 10 percent discount on ultrasound, ECG, chest X-ray, cholesterol, triglycerides, lipoprotein, fasting blood sugar and hepatitis profile.

A free medical consultation with family medicine physicians and dentists are also offered by the clinic for the month of September. Gifts and surprises await patients who visit the clinic today.

HMC-Binondo is located at 2/F Paramount Building, Quintin Paredes St., Binondo, Manila. Call 241-2066 or 241-2250.

SLMC's course focuses on pediatricians

ST. Luke's Medical Center's Department of Pediatrics, headed by Dr. Felicitas S. Aguila, will hold its 11th annual postgraduate course entitled "The Compassionate Pediatrician in a Technology-Driven Time" on Oct. 4 and 5 at the Westin Philippine Plaza.

The department has invited Dr. Joseph J. Stavola, a consultant on pediatric infectious disease from New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center as main guest speaker along with local specialists.

Call St. Luke's Department of Pediatrics at 727-5544 or the Pediatric ICU at 727-5445.

Health risks of obesity

ACCORDING to a recent estimate by the World Health Organization (WHO), more than 700 million adults are now overweight and most suffer from weight-related conditions. Obesity is rising to epidemic proportions at an alarming rate in both developed and less developed countries.

One of the most common health problems associated with excess weight is type 2 diabetes. Cardiovascular disease, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, coronary heart disease (CHD) and stroke are also strongly linked to excess weight. Excess weight can also increase the risk of developing other health problems, such as certain cancers, gall bladder disease, respiratory disorders and joint diseases.

A report by the International Obesity Task Force cited Xenical (Orlistat) as an effective drug that greatly reduces the health risks associated with excess weight. It assists in improving blood sugar in people with type 2 diabetes and allows them to reduce or discontinue their anti-diabetic medication; reduces total cholesterol levels more effectively than with diet alone; decreases blood pressure. For patients with type 2 diabetes treated with metformin and insulin, weight-loss with Xenical was over three times greater than with diet alone.

Terrorist attacks in the US were not entirely unexpected

INNER AWARENESS

Jaime T. Licauco

THE UTTERLY unprecedented and totally insane terrorist attacks on the world's most powerful country in the world on Sept. 11 have a profound impact on the consciousness not only of Americans but also of the whole world.

But they were not entirely unexpected, some people say, because Nostradamus actually predicted the events some 500 years back. Or did he?

The particular passage supposedly from the Nostradamus prophecies being circulated on the Internet and on cell phone text messages goes like this:

"In the year of the new century and nine months

"From the sky will come a great King of Terror

"The sky will burn at forty-five degrees

"Fire approaches the new city."

"In the city of York there will be a great collapse

"Two twin brothers torn apart by chaos

"While the fortress falls the great leader will succumb

"Third big war will begin when the big city is burning."

Some say Nostradamus never actually wrote that passage, that it was really a combination of several passages from his work that were fitted together by a hoax maker.

'Fabrication'

Here's what one critic, a certain Barbara Mikkelson, said of this case as posted on the Internet.

"Nostradamus did not write the quatrain now being attributed to him. It originated from a student of Brock University in Canada in the 1990s, appearing on a Web essay on Nostradamus. That particular quatrain was offered by the page's author, Neil Marshall, as a fabricated example to illustrate how easily an important-sounding prophecy can be crafted through the use of abstract imagery. He pointed out how the terms he used were so deliberately vague they could be interpreted to fit any number of cataclysmic events.

"It appears someone mistook Marshall's illustrative example for an actual Nostradamus prophecy and, not content to let well enough alone, added 'the final big war will begin when the big city is burning!' A fabrication was thus further fabricated.

"The French physician and astrologer Nostradamus (1503-1566) penned numerous quatrains populated by obscure imagery that the credulous have ever after attempted to fit to the events of their times... the prophecies are never a dead-on fit because the wordings are far too general... Not that this stops anyone from believing them."

Here's what James Randi, the American magician, skeptic and overzealous debunker of everything paranormal, has to say about this controversy, which I find amusing.

"The followers of Nostradamus see him as a prophet. His prophecies have a magical quality for those who study them: They are muddled and obscure before the predicted event, but become crystal after the event has occurred."

Randi gave a humorous example of how a passage from Nostradamus can be interpreted:

"To an old leader will be born an idiot heir, weak both in knowledge and in war." (Century I, Quatrain 78).

Randi comments, "Some ungenerous souls think this quatrain refers to two birds named Bush, solely because the younger Bush has a bit of trouble with the language."

Remarkable predictions

In fairness to Nostradamus, he really made some remarkable predictions during his lifetime, which had already come to pass. He had to write in obscure and misleading language in order to escape the inquisition that had condemned astrologers and fortunetellers to burn at the stakes.

To be sure, there were other voices, other prophets and visionaries who saw the possible coming of World War III and what the condition of the world would be when it happens.

Orson Pratt, a Mormon leader, said in 1879: "What then will be the condition of that people when this great and terrible war shall come? It will be very different from the war between the North and South. It will be a war of neighborhood against neighborhood, city against city, town against town, country against country, state against state, and they will go forth destroying and being destroyed and manufacturing will, in great measure, cease, for a time, among the American nation.

"Their cities will be left desolate. The time is coming when the great and populous city of New York—will be left without inhabitants."

The Sibylline Oracles, 2nd century BC, talked of the fate of mankind:

"A single day will see the burial of mankind, all that the long forbearance of fortune has produced, all that has been raised to eminence, all that is famous and all that is beautiful: great thrones, great nations—all will descend into one abyss, and all will be overthrown in one hour."

Let us await the unfolding historic events with calmness and hope. According to John Hogue, author of "The Millennium Prophecy," "Meditation, the science of self-observation, is the only medicine that can cure the insanity we have become and give us back a future."

Address letters to this column to 308 Prince Plaza I, 106 Legaspi St. Greenbelt, Makati City or e-mail jlicauco@geocities.com. Visit www.angelfire.com/journal/licauco. Listen to my dzMM radio program every Sunday, 6-8 p.m.

Take Charge Doc!

Nicky S. Montoya, M.D.

Looking to learn more about your benefits under your MEDICard coverage? Do you want to be clear on the procedures, which allow you to avail of MEDICard's services? Get your information straight from MEDICard's Medical Director, DR. NICKY S. MONTOYA every Tuesday.

FAQs (frequently asked questions)

Up to what age does MEDICard allow enrollment of members?

The standard age of eligibility of enrollment for principal members, dependent spouse and parents, is from 18 up to 60 years of age. For dependent children, it is from 90 days up to age 21 years. However, for large group and corporate accounts, we can accommodate members on a more flexible term, such us principals, et. al. from 18 up to age 65 or even higher and for dependent children as early as 30 days from birth. Newly enrolled members who will meet their exit age within the contract year (subject to existing provision on eligibility) must be eligible for at least 6 months.

Meet your MEDICard Team

MEDICard's Medical Coordinator at St. Luke's Medical Center is **Dr. Deborah Arce Bernardo.** Doc Deborah has been an accredited professional for more than six years and was named Medical Coordinator last year. Dr. Bernardo is a graduate of Medicine from UERM-MMC and later pursued further training from Capitol Medical Center, specializing in Internal Medicine and at St. Luke's, subspecializing in Neurology. She takes pride of being a MEDICard Medical Coordinator. She believes that it is an avenue for her to meet and treat a diversity of patients, and that this experience will substantially help her in being a better internist and neurologist. Her expertise and training are well exemplified with her Fellowship affiliations with the Philippine College of Physician and the Philippine Neurological Association. For your medical services at SLMC, drop by at the Medical Coordinator's office, room 706, South Tower.

Dr. Azora B. Capuchino is MEDICard's EENT specialist based in FEU-Dr. Nicanor Reyes Medical Foundation Hospital in West Fairview. Doc Azora has been a MEDICard accredited specialist since early 1990 and has been practicing her profession for more than 21 years. Her experience and expertise in her field has earned her a Diplomate degree to the Philippine Society of Ophthalmology and the Philippine Board of Ophthalmology. You may visit her for consultations at the FEU-NRMF, room 317 from Mondays to Saturdays, 9 AM until 1 in the afternoon.

One of the recent additions to MEDICard's medical service team is University of Santo Tomas Medicine graduate, **Dr. Janet Viviana O. Perez.** Doc Perez is based in St. Patrick's Hospital, Batangas City. She specializes in Ophthalmology where she received her training from East Avenue Medical Center. For consultations, visit Dr. Perez at the St. Patrick's Hospital every Tuesdays to Saturdays from 9 AM to 4 PM.

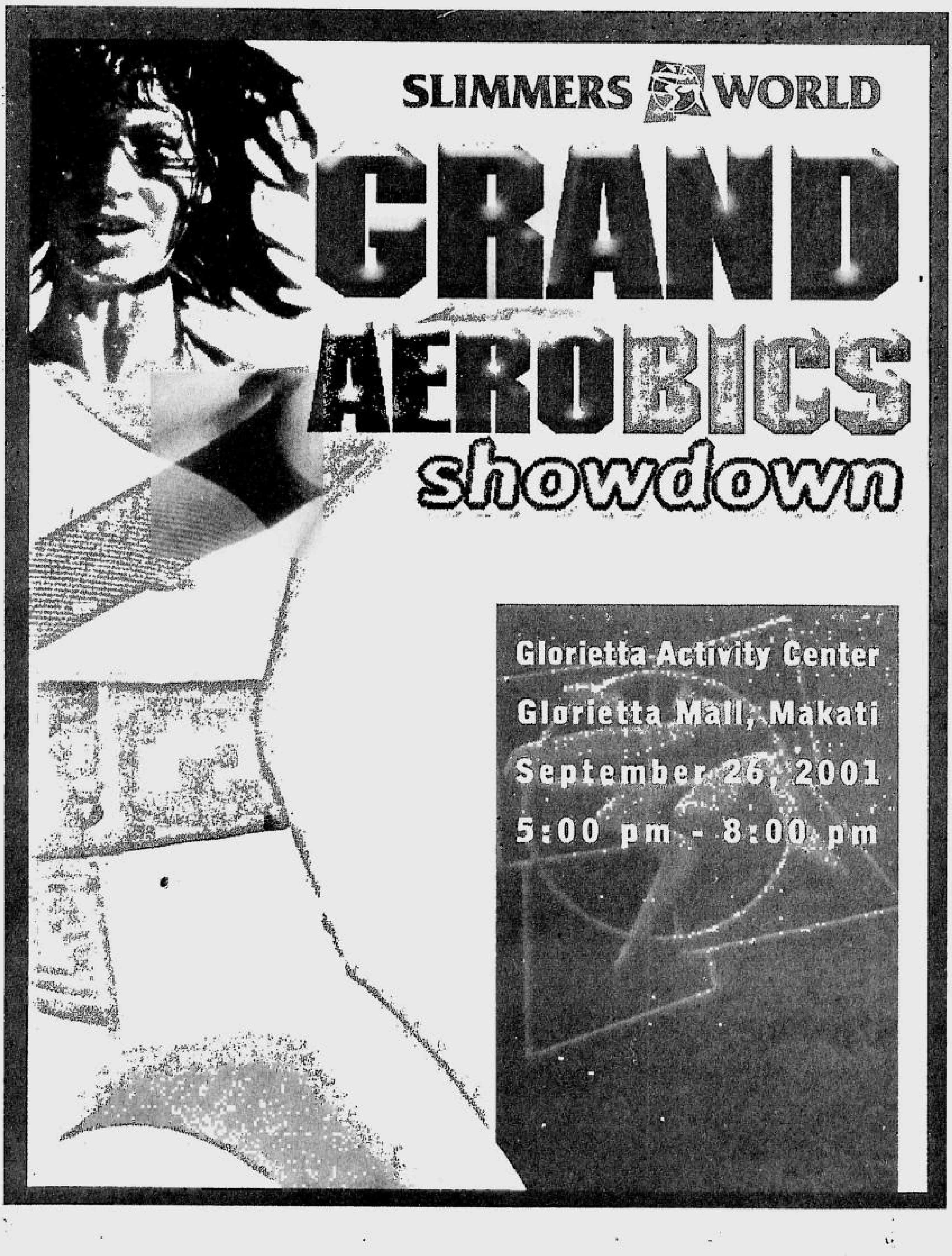
We encourage all MEDICard members to voice out their concerns and issues at hand. BE HEARD AND BE READ. You can write DR. NICKY S. MONTOYA at 9/F Sagittarius Bldg. H.V. De la Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or e-mail him at inquiry@medicardphils.com.

For individual or family membership inquiries, please call 818-2161 and look for Ms. Joy Mendiola. For group or corporate membership, please call 817-5136, 817-4985 or 817-5127 and look for a membership consultant.

TEXT MEDICard for your queries: 0917-7518365 (Globe) or 0919-2476240 (Smart). Please don't forget to include your complete name and landline number where MEDICard could reach you. ***Log on to www.medicardphils.com***

MEDICard is the first and only HMO in the Philippines and the whole Asian region to be ISO 9002 certified.

ISO 9002



SWI Grand Aerobics Showdown set on September 26

Slimmers World International (SWI) gathers the fittest, toughest workout enthusiasts for the ultimate challenge in physical fitness and aerobic endurance at the "Grand Aerobics Marathon."

Set on September 26, 2001 at the Glorietta Activity Center, the event is participated by qualified members of SWI's beginners and advanced aerobics classes who championed the mini-aerobics elimination rounds conducted in all SWI branches nationwide.

A certified adrenaline-pumping showdown, the Grand Aerobics Marathon features 130 mighty workout contenders representing SWI branches in Makati, Alabang, SM MegaMall, Binondo, Malate, Greenhills, Caloocan, Pasig, Subic and Cebu. The aero challengers will vie on a two-hour nonstop workout, inclusive of flexibility exercises, warm-up, peak aerobics, cool down and stretching. The contestant will be judged on endurance, form and coordination, enthusiasm, attire and physique. Cash and other great prizes await the marathon winners!

The Grand Aerobics Marathon is an annual event of Slimmers World International, the ultimate slimming and fitness center in the country to date. The event is sponsored by Fly Ace Juice, Hygeia Feminine Intimates, Envie, Canon, Dole, Nivea Lotion and more.

Advertorial

No more complications
in your cell phone service
with Touch Mobile's
easy message sending
and info services.

**It's as easy and
as familiar
as making a call.**

Revolutionary
voice-guided technology
makes it easy.
A system that takes you
every step of the way.
No codes. No keywords.

VOICE INFO

All you have to do is listen.

Just dial 8140 and our voice system will guide you on how to get info from Top News, Money Matters, Movie Skeds, Traffic, Horoscopes and even Showbiz News. No need to change simcards. No keywords. (P3.00 per minute)

VOICE MESSAGING

Send it with feelings.

Just dial 8160 and simply record your voice and send as a message or send creative sound icons (pre-recorded messages) from Birthday, Everyday, Friendship, Anniversary, Romance and Special Occasion Messages.
(P3.00 per minute plus P3.00 delivery fee per recipient. Available starting end of September.)

touch
mobile

Easy technology. Easily in touch.

AYALA CORPORATION
Singapore Telecom International
Deutsche Telekom

Get TOUCH Mobile from any Globe or Islacom Business Center or any cell phone dealer. For details call 730-1500 or visit www.touchmobile.com.ph

TOUCH MOBILE is the latest cellular offering of Isla Communications Co., Inc. (ISLACOM) in cooperation with Globe Telecom. Any similarity to other logos, marks and brandnames is purely coincidental.